FBIS DAILY REPORT

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RELATIVES OF PRISONERS APPEAL TO GOVERNMENT

PY070053Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2232 GMT 6 Feb 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 Feb--A commission of relatives of political prisoners asked the Argentine Military Government today "to stop the strange disappearances and lengthy and unjustified detentions of men and women." Recalling that in 1978 Argentina celebrates the 200th anniversary of the birth of San Martin, the country's greatest hero, together with the 30th anniversary of the universal declaration of the rights of man, they issued four appeals to the governing military junta:

To reveal those citizens who are illegally detained;

To release those detained without charge and use the option to leave the country, provided for in the national constitution;

A trial, in agreement with the national constitution and the laws, for those who face charges;

An immediate stop to the continuing actions which motivated the letter released here today.

NEW COMMISSION TO STUDY REQUESTS FOR EXILE

PY062301Y Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 4 Feb 78 p 7 PY

[Text] Official sources reported last night that a special commission has been formed to study requests to leave the country under the right of option.

It was learned that this commission will comprise Gen Juan Alberto Pita, Brig Gen Francisco Salinas and Rear Adm Ernesto Martin.

It was also reported that in a few days the commission will start studying the first 50 cases of detainess at the disposal of the executive branch who have asked permission to leave Argentina.

It was added that these studies will take some time. Cases will be studied in series, the first of which includes 50 cases. Every case will be studied on an individual basis and later a general study will be made of those persons who will or will not be authorized to leave the country.

HERALD FAVORS FREE PORT FOR PARAGUAY

PY062209Y Buenos Aires HERALD in English 6 Feb 78 p 6 PY

[Editorial: "Free Zone for Paraguay"]

[Text] The Paraguayan Government and a number of Paraguayan business interests are seeking a free port area in and around Escobar. The Paraguayan Foreign Ministry is reportedly now in the process of drawing up a formal request, which is likely to be presented next month. It deserves to be treated with understanding. Landlocked Paraguay has always found its geographical position an economic handicap. [paragraph continues]

Nearness to the markets of the River Plate area cannot compensate for distance from the immeasurably richer and bigger markets of the Northern Hemisphere. If Argentina has found reason to complain about its ill-luck in being remote from the main centres of the developed world, Paraguay's situation can be easily appreciated. Because of it Paraguay is, to a considerable extent, dependent on the good will of its two largest neighbours.

In the past this country has not been as cooperative with the Paraguayans as it could have been. Goods to or from Paraguay have been held up in customs warehouses for unconscionable lengths of time. Trade agreements have not always been observed to the letter. Paraguayan interests have been unfairly sacrificed because of the action of lobbyists here who feared competition, and obstacles have been thrown in the path of some Paraguayan imports. Fortunately, under the present government, Paraguay has been treated less arbitrarily by the relevant Argentine authorites than it was when the Peronists were in power: The sentimental fiction that Paraguay had a special place in all good Peronist hearts was never reflected in real life.

Granting reasonable requests for certain facilities from Paraguay is mainly a matter of common decency. There is also, however, an element of enlightened self-interest that should also be taken into account. Paraguay is ceasing to be a country that can be treated as a picturesque backwater. It is already caught up in a period of rapid economic growth that will soon make it a very worthwhile trading partner. It is, moreover, already an essential energy partner: Without wholehearted cooperation from Paraguay it will be impossible to exploit the waters of the upper Parana properly. Unless they are fully exploited for the production of energy, however, the gap between our energy needs and what is available will grow and develop will be held back.

The Paraguayan Government sometimes indignantly denies that it is playing a "pendulum" diplomatic game between Argentina and Brazil. The denials are understandable, but geographical realities dictate otherwise. With Paraguay an increasingly attractive partner it is natural that a competition for its affections should develop. At present Brazil, piqued by Paraguay's rejection of its proposal that it change its electrical frequency, is at a disadvantage. Some friendly gestures from Argentina would therefore be welcome.

LOAN AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH BANK CONSORTIUM

PY061943Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1543 GMT 6 Feb 78 PY

[Text] Frankfurt, Germany, 6 Feb--Argentina today signed a loan agreement for DM 150 million ($71 million) in Frankfurt. The loan was granted by an international banking consortium headed by the Deutsch Bank AG of Frankfurt am Main.

The loan was only going to be for DM 1000 million at first. Annual interest will be 6.5 percent (a 6.75-percent rate had originally been considered).

According to reports from Deutsche Bank, the associated issuance will be launched on the market with a face value of 99.5 percent. Repayment was set for 1 March, 1985.

PDC LEADER REBUTS BANZER'S 'LETTER TO PEOPLE'

FY032203Y La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 28 Jan 78 p 9 FY

[Text] Regarding the call to dialog between the political parties and the president's "letter to the people," Benjamin Miguel, a leader of the Christian Democrat Party [PDC], yesterday released the following declaration:

"The president has taken the initiative by announcing the call for dialog, but at the same time he withdraws his invitation for reasons which he believes are important.

"Regarding the proposals which are made by the armed forces government through the commander in chief and president of the republic, we must point out the following:

"1. There can be only one type of legal-institutional stability: that of putting the 1967 constitution into effect without any type of limitations.

"2. There can be no social peace unless real efforts are made, through a social-democratic policy, to overcome the coexistence of the peasants', miners', urban workers' and middle classes' poverty with the wealth of another sector of the population. Pope Paul said: 'Social peace is achieved when a person is worthwhile and worthful and not only when he is more wealthy.'

"3. Representative and participatory democracy based on freedom and pluralism in all its forms and not on paternalism exercised in society, because in society everyone of us is responsible and conscious of our actions and we do not require the tutelage of anyone.

4. The one and only equality, both for those who govern and for those who are governed, when put into practice is what should give us the conditions for dialog, rather than a monolog such as has been happening by our having to listen to the voice of the government for the last 7 years. Constructive dialog must not simply be a delaying and distracting tactic; it must be done in good faith in order to achieve a great national agreement, which in turn must change the current state of things in their negative aspects for a democratization process which will immediately lead us to a participatory democracy. This in itself implies a representative democracy exercized with freedom and with a sense of change.

OPPOSITION LEADER JUAN LECHIN RETURNS FROM EXILE

PA052000Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1845 GMT 5 Feb 78 PA

[Text] La Paz, 5 Feb (AFP)--It was reported here today that Juan Lechin Oquendo, top leader of Bolivian miners and industrial workers, arrived in La Paz last night after 6 1/2 years of political exile. A small group of his supporters went to El Alto International Airport to welcome him. Lechin, who was vice president of the republic while the National Revolutionary Movement (MNR) was in power from 1952 to 1964, arrived in the country legally, following the announcement of total amnesty for political exiles and refugees.

Lechin's papers were in order and local airport police made no objection to the entry of this leader, who opposes President Hugo Banzer. Lechin is the top leader of the Bolivian Labor Central (COB) and of the Mineworkers Federation of Bolivia (FSTMB), as well as the founder of the Revolutionary Party of the Nationalist Left (PRIN).

U.S., SOVIET 'MONOPOLY' HIT IN SATELLITE INCIDENT

PY0623322 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 1 Feb 78 p 3 PY

[From the "Notes and Information" page: "The Real Nuclear Danger"]

[Text] Just before the Canadian Government officially reported finding the radioactive remains of the Soviet military satellite Cosmos-954, equipped with a nuclear reactor, which had fallen in its territory, the agency TASS was already reporting that another satellite of the same kind, Cosmos-986, had been launched by the Soviet Union to carry on the project "intended to continue space exploration."

The truth is that the official Soviet explanation is only a cynical euphemism for essentially military objectives. The purpose of Cosmos-954 was to spy on U.S. naval and submarine movements by using sophisticated radar. The new satellite, launched into earth orbit with the same load of 50 kilograms of enriched uranium-235 to feed its reactor, is also a spy.

The most ironic thing about the whole fallen Soviet satellite episode is that protest by the U.S. Government, which accepted Moscow's arguments, was limited to a comment by President Carter on the need for an international agreement--or to be more specific, an agreement between Moscow and Washington--to regulate the use of satellites with nuclear reactors, since there is serious danger of one entering and contaminating the earth's atmosphere. In addition to President Carter's tolerance, the haste with which his special advisor on foreign affairs, Zbigniew Brzezinski, minimized the polluting effects of the radioactive remains found in Canada, reveals and agreement--we will not to say connivance--between the two nuclear superpowers concerning comments on the risks involved in having a monopoly on use of the earth's nuclear power.

The Soviet Union, which does not hesitate to use satellites dangerous enough to lead the Canadian Government to protest "the violation of existing international nuclear agreements," has already launched 11 Cosmos-series satellites with reactors fed by enriched uranium-235 in addition to the 928 conventional satellites still intact in earth orbit. The United States has already launched at least one of those satellites into space, where it is estimated it will remain for about 4,000 years. So, the world's two largest nuclear powers are acting completely at will, without the control of international agencies which could override the superpowers' authority to do what they wish with nuclear energy, even when they endanger the ecological balance of entire regions and the lives of millions of inhabitants on various continents.

We should discuss the moral authority of the Soviet Union and of the United States, when both decide to pressure countries which aspire to the right to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes such as energy development, that is to say economic development, and not to supply spy satellites or to undertake operations which are not subject to strict international control.

There is a serious contradiction between the express goals of Moscow, when it pressures the FRG and other countries not to carry out nuclear cooperation agreements with Brazil, while arguing hypocritically concerning the use of enriched uranium and nuclear proliferation, and its dangerous actions in producing satellites with a high potential for dangerous radioactivity in the earth's atmosphere, as the Canadian authorities revealed in the protest sent to the Soviet Government. [paragraph continues]

According to Canada, the altitude at which its planes detected radioactivity from the disintegrated satellite over the northern region of the country indicates a high radioactivity content, contrary to what Carter advisor Brzezinski had initially said.

Not only do the two nuclear superpowers need to control the use of this type of satellite, as President Carter himself said, but they also should stop pressuring developing nations like Brazil, which do not want to join the nuclear monopoly or even to engage in the proliferation which results from competition between armed powers, but which only want access to modern technology. Those involved in the dispute generated by the Netherlands' hesitation in supplying uranium for Brazilian nuclear projects should consider the fact that the real nuclear danger is not in access to uranium or to reactors when there are strict international safeguards. The real danger, as we saw in the Canadian episode, is in an exclusive monopoly of the power over life and death, without precise rules which guarantee control of that power by the international community.

COSMOS INCIDENT SHOWS DANGER OF MILITARY PROGRAMS

PY062349Y Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 26 Jan 78 p 10 PY

[Editorial: "Continuing Paradox"]

[Text] Suddenly, the inhabitants of this already troubled planet--where, among other things, some engage in the practice of launching spacecraft--were informed by the masters of power that a spacecraft which was carrying 45 kgs of uranium had been out of control and lost in the stratosphere for several days.

What one would consider fiction has become a daily, real problem for these suffering people. In the first place, the Soviet computing system has lost control of a large military satellite; secondly, no one knows where it will fall, much less the degree of fallout it could generate.

The Cosmos-954 incident reflects, in the first place, the threat posed by the militarization of space programs. As can be seen, this spacecraft was not launched into space with the objective of improving the standard of living of those on whose heads it is to fall. This was a spy spacecraft which came to replace the U-2 planes, which become both politically and technically obsolete. Like hundreds of U.S. and Soviet satellites, it is far more a sophisticated device for spying than a scientific advance. As is known, these satellites are sometimes equipped with high precision photographic equipment which takes pictures in which a 3-meter high stick can be identified.

The money spent on this type of espionage does not help improve the standard of living of those who spy or of those who are spied on. These machines are sophisticated expressions of the disturbed political personalities which now prevail in the world.

The Cosmos-954 disaster shows the paradox posed by the militarism of developed societies. On the one hand, the Soviets and the United States are spending a fortune to create increasingly deadly weapons and increasingly sophisticated warning devices and, on the other, the Kremlin and the White House are being forced to hold rapid secret negotiations to prevent the disaster which might be caused by the crash of a nuclear satellite.

A strange situation is that of Zbigniew Brzezinski and Anatoliy Dobrynin, who met one afternoon in Washington to prevent possible nuclear fallout in a distant Canadian village of fishermen. Seated around the same table, they seemed two characters who are primarily concerned over protecting life in this planet. After all, two of the most powerful men in the world seemed to be trying to avoid a disaster which could reasonably affect some dozens or hundreds of people.

But let us look at these two men from another angle and we will find their activity grotesque. First, they are making more and more nuclear bombs with the obvious purpose of dropping them on each other. Then, they are making satellites and choosing the precise point on the other's territory where they are to fall. Suddenly, the satellite crashes and they, who devote their major efforts to the objective of killing the largest possible number of bystanders [terceiros], now seem concerned over avoiding a disaster which would be much less damaging than any explosion.

Their meeting was undoubtedly motivated by civilized feelings, but we should still note that because of the Cosmos-954, the United States and the Soviet Union are now trying to convince the world that their land-based and space equipment does not threaten mankind. The Russians have reported that the satellite was programmed to destroy its uranium load in case of accident. This may be true. The thing that matters is, however, its basic purpose: It was conceived to kill.

In the end, mankind may be militarily unprotected, but it is not intellectually unprepro-tected to the point of believing that war machinery, which brings about famine and inequal-ities, can be something effective, peaceful and healthy.

GEISEL MEETS WITH FIVE MINISTERS ON GATT MEETING

PY061534Y Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 3 Feb 78 p 22 PY

[Text] Brasilia--During a meeting with five ministers yesterday afternoon, President Ernesto Geisel studied the Brazilian trade directives in view of the coming GATT meeting.

The meeting, which began at 1530 and last for nearly 2 hours, was attended by ministers Azeredo da Silveira, foreign relations; Mario Henrique Simonsen, finance; Jao Paulo dos Reis Velloso, planning; Angelo Calmon de Sa, industry and commerce; and Golbery de Couto e Silva, Civilian Household of the Presidency.

Within the next few days Brazil will submit its demands during GATT's multilateral trade negotiations. Its main demand will be a request for the removal of the tariff as well as non-tariff barriers by the United States, EEC and Japan in the agricultural and industrial sectors. An inter-ministerial group has been drafting the list for some time.

CONSTRUCTION DELAYS IN ANGRA 1 NUCLEAR PLANT CONTINUE

PY062045Y Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 3 Feb 78 p 20 PY

[Text] So far FURNAS [an ELETROBRAS subsidiary] has not been able to determine how long the Angra 1 nuclear plant will be delayed because of the 31 October warehouse fire at the construction site which destroyed $4-million worth of equipment, much of it imported.

Construction chief Alceo Antonio Braga Lopes revealed that the company will only be able to work out a new timetable after March, when it will have received the delivery dates for the equipment to be imported to replace the burned equipment. Before the fire, hot tests (with uranium fuel) were scheduled for July this year and commercial operation for December.

FURNAS technicians working on the plant refused comment on rumors this week that the nuclear fuel had already arrived in Brazil. Activity at the construction site proceeded normally yesterday, under the security scheme which has kept it closed to strangers since last November--"for security reasons," according to FURNAS.

Recently a high-ranking source in the energy area said that he did not know whether the nuclear fuel had arrived in Brazil, and that he did not know why the mines and energy minister did not deny rumors that it had.

Engineer Alceo Braga Lopes did not want to comment on the arrival of the nuclear fuel either, alleging that he "did not have any authority to do so." But he explained that "even after the delivery of the fuel, the plant will only go into operation after the burned equipment has been replaced, because a nuclear plant cannot be put to work with temporary installations." He said that even the hot tests depend on replacement of all damaged equipment. To save time, FURNAS is trying to borrow, from "anywhere in the world," any equipment which takes too long to manufacture, Engineer Alceo Braga said.

As to the status of the project, the engineer said that the fuel storage building is ready to receive uranium, all the concrete parts of the plant are ready, the turbines are being mounted, the turbogenerator is ready (only some accessory parts need to be assembled), 300 km of the total of 600 km of cable for the electric and ventilation systems has been installed, and the water discharge tunnel only lacks some finishing details.

The cooling water intake will be completed once the bases for the two main pumps are installed. The plant's control room has been ready for operation since last Wednesday. The 500-kW substation to link the Andrianopolis system in Rio de Janeiro State with the Cachoeira Paulista system in Sao Paulo could be finished by September, but this will depend on the delivery of a circuit breaker to replace the one damaged by the fire. Engineer Braga explained that the fire in the warehouse damaged equipment and material for several plant systems, and this caused problems all over the project.

FIRST URANIUM FROM NETHERLANDS DUE LATE 1981

PY061525Y Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 3 Feb 78 p 13 PY

[Text] Brasilia--After parliament's approval of the sale of enriched uranium to Brazil, the next step to be taken by the Netherlands Government is that of discussing--jointly with England and the FRG--an agreement, to be submitted to the Brazilian authorities, which will contain the guarantees considered necessary in order to begin exporting.

This is the opinion of the Netherlands Embassy in Brasilia, which, up to yesterday evening, had only received the original text of the two motions approved by the parliament in the Hague. The ambassador, Baron Gerhard Wolter Bentinck, had gone to Salvador where he is staying during Carnival.

According to embassy sources, even though the first shipment of enriched uranium for Brazil is expected toward the end of 1981 or the beginning of 1982, it is possible that the countries which are members of URENCO (the Netherlands, England and the FRG) will opt for an agreement with the Brazilian Government instead of negotiating an international document signed by all members of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), which would be much more difficult and time consuming.

Nevertheless, the sources made it clear that the Netherlands parliament will have to be kept informed of the discussions and will have final approval of the agreement signed with Brazil.

"The Netherlands parliament's concern regarding problems related to nuclear energy and to the possible dangers atomic waste can have for the population in general began nearly 8 years ago," explained a diplomat.

He also emphasized that voters in the Netherlands are making every effort to avoid proliferation of nuclear arms throughout the world and, through parliament, have created obstacles in the exportation of nuclear material of technology by the government.

NETHERLANDS FOREIGN MINISTER ON NUCLEAR ISSUES

PY041907Y Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 2 Feb 78 p 7 PY

[By special correspondent William Waak]

[Text] "All my worries would disappear if Brazil were to ratify the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT)," Netherlands Foreign Minister Van Der Klaauw stated in an exclusive interview with O ESTADO. Although he made the statement as an expression of "his hope," the minister said that he does not believe that failure to ratify the NPT will pose unsurmountable problems, because "in a way, Brazil has gone even further by agreeing to the IAEA safeguards."

Question: What modifications will be made in Netherlands policy in the wake of the parliament decision?

Answer: In principle there will be no changes. The approval was for expansion of the Almelo uranium enrichment plant, an expansion which is obviously important if shipments to Brazil are to be possible. This is the first point, and the second point is that the approval represents approval of whatever the three URENCO partners and Brazil have agreed to--i.e., that a worldwide agreement will be sought within IAEA principles. My hope is that this will be the best solution possible. And the third point is that it was made clear that, unless a worldwide agreement is reached, we have to search for an agreement suitable to Brazil's case. In some way we are ultimately going to arrive at an agreement, but a global agreement will be best.

All of this is perfectly in line with the agreement with Brazil. We still have two differences to work out, first with our partners, the FRG and Great Britain, and then with Brazil. The first problem is that if we have an agreement valid only between Brazil and the URENCO partner countries, the terms of that agreement will have to apply to all governments which have not signed the NPT, since Brazil did not sign it. As far as I know, the Brazilian Government makes no objection to this, because it will not discriminate against Brazil. But I will have to convince the others, since we have already examined this point and disagreement is possible on the part of some countries which did not adhere to the NPT either. It all depends on whether these countries have uranium enrichment facilities, and so a series of factors enter the picture. This is one of the differences.

The other difference is that the agreement among the four governments must have its final provisions worked out by the time the reprocessing facilities begin to operate in Brazil. This may be 1985 or 1986; I do not know exactly, but within that period. Shipments from Almelo will start in 1981 or 1982, and the parliament now demands that by that time the final provisions must be worked out. These are the two differences, but I believe other things are more important.

Question: How do you anticipate the talks with Great Britain and the FRG will go?

Answer: I will of course underscore the positive side of the matter. I will also press the fact that practically the entire Netherlands parliament voted for the resolution to expand Almelo and that this was the first time that the parliament had come out so overwhelmingly for the expansion of Almelo and for the agreement we have reached. I still have to negotiate two other questions which may or may not be difficult. We will have to wait and see.

Question: Is there a fundamental difference in the way the FRG and the Netherlands view the NPT?

Answer: I do not think so. But we are talking here about something which is slightly different. When the decision to supply uranium to Brazil was taken, the FRG and Brazil went quite far with the safeguard agreement, in which the Vienna-based IAEA is involved.

That agreement in many ways goes further than the NPT itself. Brazil agreed to that, and I consider this to be very important. If I may express a hope here, let me say that all my worries would disappear if Brazil were to ratify the NPT. But that will not be necessary. In a way, Brazil went even further by agreeing to the IAEA safeguards. Great Britain and the Netherlands are satisfied with that. Everything is within the scope and spirit of the NPT. The material cannot be used for explosions or anything like that. What we are discussing now is something different, to the world: a system making possible the control of plutonium, which is the basis for the atomic bomb. So far we have no system to accomplish that. Neither this point nor anything resembling it is covered in the NPT. Now we have arrived at the conclusion that this will be a difficult problem.

The foreign minister who held the post before me talked with [Brazilian] Foreign Minister Silveira, and they agreed that a system will have to be implemented. What is going on now is related to the initiative of U.S. President Carter: A large group of countries, Brazil among them, is discussing with the three URENCO countries a system to control plutonium and the problems involved. Naturally there are many technical problems. They are talking about problems such as plutonium, physical security, etc. We will be kept busy with this discussion until 1979, and only then will we know what kind of system will be accepted worldwide. If we reach a global agreement as I think we will--naturally legal questions are involved--it would be ready a year later. If we do not reach that kind of agreement, I hope that during the discussion of this entirely new question the four countries which are really pioneering in this question will be close enough in their views so that an ad hoc agreement will be possible.

Question: Two factors have great importance in the parliament debate: the character of the current Brazilian regime and the principle of nonproliferation. The previous Netherlands Government adopted an attitude quite critical of the Brazilian Government. Comments are heard in Brazil that the present Netherlands cabinet changed its policy on that.

Answer: We have peaceful relations which I believe should be promoted through a combined effort. We have a great interest in Brazil. I myself lived 3 and 1/2 years in Brazil, as you perhaps know. I know your country, and I know its needs. The existence of so many poor people in Brazil and the possibility that the nuclear program may benefit them were brought up here in parliament. I know this problem and I used to discuss it in Brazil when I lived there.

I must also say that the people in the Netherlands have an acute sensitivity--not directed against Brazil necessarily--about the whole issue generally referred to as human rights. A person cannot be put in jail without a trial. People must have freedom to say what they want to say. We abide by many principles which have been handed down through generations since the 16th and 17th centuries. Naturally we will talk about this and want to talk about it. If I have the feeling that something is wrong in the world, I may try to do something to correct it. This tradition plays a role here, and it has to do with the way we believe life must be organized and how society can develop.

Question: Were you expecting strong parliamentary opposition to the government's decision to expand Almelo in order to trade with Brazil?

Answer: Yes, but there were different problems involved. One of them is the existence of a new government, the changes in the coalition, and the fact that this was the first opportunity for the opposition to attack the government. This was then a discussion over domestic politics, as was clearly seen. Another thing was that small groups of people here are against nuclear energy in principle. But I believe the fact that the problem lent itself for a good intramural fight against the government was paramount in the opposition's mind. Nevertheless, the fact that after a long, long time practically all the parliament voted for the proposal demonstrates that there was not much difference of opinion.

Question: Do you intend to have some kind of contact with your Brazilian colleague soon?

Answer: What I have to do first is to talk to my colleagues from Germany and Great Britain. Afterward, all three of us will discuss the problem with the Brazilian foreign minister, just as our ambassadors will discuss it also. We think Brazil will have to negotiate with all three of us together, not separately. So I believe that we will keep working on this basis.

NETHERLANDS CRITICIZED ON NUCLEAR POSITION

PY062223Y Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 2 Feb 78 p 3 PY

[From the "Notes and Information" page: "A Discriminatory Decision"]

[Text] The Netherlands Government opposition to URENCO production of the uranium which is indispensable for the Angra 2 and 3 reactors must be taken without a show of passion, but it must also be taken without any illusion as to its real effect. It seems probable that international legislation to control the shipment of fissionable materiel, which the Hague wishes to see approved, will be ready when the two nuclear plant which Brazil will build under its agreement with the FRG are operational. And it can therefore be believed that the qualms of the Netherlands Government concerning development of our energy program will not cause major problems. [paragraph continues]

Nevertheless, this is only one side of the question. The other side is definitely political. The Netherlands Government's decision was essentially political and is, to a certain extent, another in a long series of obstacles applied against Brazil and the FRG since the atomic agreement was signed in 1975.

Since September, 1977, the Netherlands Government has indicated to the Brazilian Government its desire to establish more rigid guarantees for the use of enriched uranium supplied by URENCO, in which both England and the FRG participate with the equal right of vetoing exports of fissionable materiel. From the time that the Netherlands suggestion was made it became obvious that its nature was both strange and discriminatory: strange, because Brazil had already signed, with the FRG and the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA], the fullest guarantees regarding the use of enriched uranium and of the plutonium resulting from the operation of the reactors; discriminatory, because it was demanded of Brazil only and not of all the countries which use uranium for a variety of purposes. The fact that Brazil was disposed to negotiate the additional guarantees demanded by the Netherlands--provided that it was not submitted to discrimination within the international community--placed the Netherlands Government in a difficult situation with both Brazil and its own public opinion. The solution is already apparent: The Netherlands veto concerning export of uranium will stand until supplementary international legislation is negotiated.

The Hague Government is perfectly aware that its decision is, in practice, a permanent veto or a political maneuver without practical effect, because it will be difficult for the 81 IAEA members to reach an agreement which will reconcile the desire for technological autonomy with the two superpowers' demand for a continued nuclear monopoly (which has already been written into the Nonproliferation Treaty). We can come to no other conclusion when it is known that the IAEA is incapable of exercising control over countries which refuse to sign guarantee agreements with it such as those signed by Brazil, an incapability resulting from the nuclear community's lack of a desire to place sufficient resources at the IAEA's disposal; or when the vulnerability of any type of control system, even a national one, is considered. For example, the U.S. Government has just confessed that Israel, through irregular means, stole a large amount of plutonium from one of its atomic plants.

Now, in view of these facts the Hague government's decision is not readily understood. The internal political motives which caused the Netherlands cabinet to leave the solution for the future are perfectly understandable--this is a principle of democracy and the price which all of us have to pay. Disregarding these internal political motives, any other alleged motives have no sense because they answer the irrational fear that the FRG wants to build the atomic bomb in Brazil, or other even less reasonable fears that Brazil will manufacture nuclear artifacts on its own account. Since all this is senseless, the Netherlands Government decision has unnecessarily insulted the Bonn and Brasilia governments, because it reflects a tacit belief that the guarantees with the IAEA are not sufficient. The IAEA was also the object of the Netherlands lack of confidence (which allows us to question the value which the Netherlands places on new international legislation). This was because it refused to accept the Brazilian proposal that the agency strengthen and implement with the necessary rigor--against ALL ITS MEMBER COUNTRIES, including the United States and Russia--its statutes concerning control and processing of used enriched uranium, to prevent it being used for military purposes. In sum, the Netherlands decision openly shows that only the "great powers," or those who disregard regulations established by the international community, are allowed to produce energy with uranium. The "little powers" must be eternally content with the discriminatory situation in which they find themselves.

ITAMARATY PLEASED BY NETHERLANDS' ACTION

FY062003Y Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 3 Feb 78 p 13 FY

[Text] Alleging that they have not received any official information, Itamaraty refused to comment on the "conditions" demanded by the Netherlands parliament so that URENCO--the consortium made up by the FRG, the Netherlands and Great Britain--may supply enriched uranium to Brazil. In diplomatic circles, however, the mounting impression is that, of the three options mentioned in the motion approved by the lower chamber, the option recommending the signing of a specific agreement between URENCO and Brazil will be the one adopted.

The other two options raise problems considered almost insoluble. The first option requires that the countries which have not signed the nonproliferation treaty such as Brazil be subject to an international safeguards agreement based on International Atomic Energy Agency statutes. It is unlikely that it will be accepted by countries which already possess an advanced technology such as India (which already has exploded a bomb), Pakistan and Israel--countries which, according to this option, would have to participate in the agreement.

The other option which proposes a worldwide agreement on the rules for the storage of uranium based on Articles 5 and 12 of the IAEA statutes would run into the opposition of the two greatest nuclear powers--the United States and the Soviet Union--which would not be likely to allow the inspection of their nuclear installations by the IAEA at any time, as stipulated by these articles.

Another important factor on which Brazilian experts based their expectation that the option of a specific agreement with Brazil is the most likely is the time it would take to negotiate an agreement which applies to all NPT nonsignatory nations as well as IAEA member countries.

A specific agreement with Brazil would have the advantage of taking a shorter time to negotiate, and would be negotiated only with URENCO countries. Some of the provisions which have already been accepted by the four governments involved have been basically accepted by the Netherlands parliament and, according to information given by the Netherlands Foreign Minister Van Der Klaaw, only two main demands need to be presented for negotiation: first, that all provisions of the future agreement should apply to all NPT nonsignatory countries; and second, that the future agreement should be concluded by 1981, when the shipments from the Almelo plant are scheduled to begin.

The first demand has already been accepted by the governments of Brazil, Great Britain, the Netherlands and the FRG and has been included in the agreement submitted for ratification by the Netherlands lower chamber; therefore, this will not be a stumbling block. The Brazilian experts have doubts concerning the second demand that the agreement should be concluded by 1981 since, according to them, the question will not refer to enriched uranium alone. but to all fissionable materials.

However, Brazilian diplomats do not want to analyze points raised in the interview granted to O ESTADO by the Netherlands foreign minister, because some points in that interview were quite confusing, due perhaps to its loose translation. So they are waiting for official information from the Netherlands Government or from URENCO before saying anything.

Even with its demands, the approval of the motion by the lower chamber brought great relief to Itamaraty yesterday. The main Brazilian concern was that the lack of definite approval for the supply of enriched uranium to Brazil would weaken the Brazilian position on the eve of President Geisel's visit to the FRG early in March and, more so, in the wake of U.S. President Jimmy Carter's visit to Brazil a few weeks later.

The diplomats do not really see the Brazilian-German nuclear agreement in danger, to the point of considering President Geisel's visit necessary for its consolidation. They affirm that the documents signed between Brasilia and Bonn are on safe grounds and say that the presidential visit is nothing but a demonstration that Brazil continues to enjoy the esteem of the international community.

Another important factor to be considered is President Jimmy Carter's visit to Brazil, after Geisel's return from Germany. A refusal by the Netherlands parliament to approve, under any conditions, the shipment of enriched uranium to Brazil would have created an uncomfortable position for the Brazilian Government vis-a-vis the U.S. President--the strongest opponent to the Brazilian nuclear program--and might have even jeopardized Geisel's trip to Bonn, considerably weakening the Brazilian position, which is still under pressure from the nuclear powers.

Now that the situation has been clarified, the Brazilian Government expects President Carter's visit to turn out to be, as a diplomat put it, "good and fine." Itamaraty does not expect new U.S. pressures, at least in the short term and directly, especially after President Geisel's visit to Germany, which should be successful. But is has no doubt that new attacks, overt or covert, direct or indirect, will be launched.

FIGUEIREDO CONTINUING TO DEFINE FUTURE REGIME

PY062030Y Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 1 Feb 78 p 3 PY

[Text] Brasilia--In his effort to establish a basis for government action without swerving from the line drawn up by President Geisel, Gen Joao Baptista de Figueiredo feels it is possible to correct any injustices that may have been committed, and that political normalization can be achieved through institutional reforms--not a constituent assembly--which defend both the state and the rights of citizens.

General Figueiredo also feels that the number of parties can be increased to five or seven; that action should be taken to find solutions to social and educational problems; and that agriculture should receive more economic support. All this, however, is regarded as following the path opened by Geisel, even in the hostile territory of an imported economic crisis.

In his first month as a candidate for candidate," General Figueiredo has been talking quite a bit to collect information about the national situation and the necessary structural reform. In this assessment, the military has not been disregarded. He has talked with his military comrades, mostly informally. In addition, the armed forces have not refused to supply data, which the general has been using to form and update a picture of the national situation.

Encouraged by this prevailing attitude within the armed forces, he has also been following the various aspects of the internal situation of the three services, primarily because they are closely involved in national security policy. In light of their behavior, he is not uneasy about the positions of military leaders [on his candidacy]. In this regard, General Figueiredo has reasserted that his military status does not make him a military candidate.

He has no plans ready yet, either for ministries or state governments, nor any government projects or institutional reforms. And he does not intend to speak about them before the ARENA convention. He considers himself "a candidate for candidate," who continues to collect information [illegible] these questions. He has also gathered information through the congressmen a[illegible].

General Figueiredo is an attentive reader of newspapers, where he finds a way of evaluating changes of opinion and of studying reactions and positions regarding large and small national problems. He says he considers the press with respect and loyalty. He even justifies his refusal to hold interviews because if later he had to correct some ideas, he would correct himself, never the reporter. His objective is to become fully aware of the people's aspirations.

General Figueiredo will not touch subjects such as revision of revolutionary punishment or the country's political normalization until he is elected ARENA candidate, which is becoming more certain every day. Yesterday, he received Senator Teotonio Vilela's support with no surprise. The support a few months ago of another Liberal, Senator Daniel Krieger, had been considered an open door for Senator Vilela. The report published yesterday that General Figueiredo had discussed the nuclear question--even weapons--with Deputy Nina Ribeiro, caused surprise. It was reported in his office that they discussed subjects related to Rio de Janeiro policy.

HISPANOIL SIGNS OFF-SHORE PROSPECTING CONTRACT

PY062237Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2332 GMT 3 Feb 78 PY

[Excerpt] Rio de Janeiro, 3 Feb--The Brazilian state-owned company PETROBRAS today signed a contract with the Spanish firm HISPANOIL for oil prospecting in Brazil.

Empresa Hispanica de Petroleo S.A. [HISPANOIL] will search for oil in an area of 3,075 square kilometers on the Brazilian continental shelf, near the mouth of the Amazon River.

The contract for oil prospecting in Brazilian territory was signed by the presidents of PETROBRAS, Gen Araken de Oliveira, and HISPANOIL, Julio Calleja Gonzalez Camino.

The Spanish firm will be responsible for the financial risks of investing in these projects and, if it discovers commercially productive oil deposits, will have the right to repayment for the work carried out in addition to payment in proportion to the deposits' characteristics.

BRIEFS

NEW OIL RISK CONTRACT--PETROBRAS today signed the fifth risk contract in the second round of bids, this time with (?Standard Oil) for oil exploration in the Amazon Basin. PETROBRAS also announced that its total investments were increased by 45.9 percent over last year; its gross profits increased by 39.7 percent; and its net profit amounted to 13,679,000,000 cruzeiros, which can be broken down to a net dividend of 54 cents per share. [Aparecida Radio Aparecida in Portuguese 1430 GMT 3 Feb 78 PY]

REJECTION OF ARGENTINE PROTEST EXPECTED

PY041736Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1620 GMT 4 Feb 78 PY

[Excerpt] Santiago, Chile, 4 Feb--A reliable source stated that Chile will reject the note of protest sent yesterday by the Argentine Government concerning the administrative measures taken by the Santiago government in the southern islands.

Several months ago Chile designated sea wardens and chiefs of guard and signal posts on Picton, Lennox, Nueva, Hornos, Deceit, Freycinet, Herschel and Wollaston islands. The administrative measure was taken 3 months after publication of the arbitral decision which granted Chile sovereignty over Picton, Lennox and Nueva islands and reaffirmed the sovereignty of this country over all the islands located south of the Beagle Channel as well, according to the source.

FURTHER REPORTS ON CHRISTIAN DEMOCRAT EXILES

Court Confirms Leader's Exile

PY031618Y Santiago Chile Radio Mineria in Spanish 0930 GMT 3 Feb 78 PY

[Text] The Supreme Court of Justice has turned down a petition to allow the leader of the dissolved Christian Democratic Party, Jaime Castillo, to return to the country.

The Supreme Court confirmed a decision taken by the Santiago Appeals Court rejecting a claim filed by Castillo's lawyer that the deportation of his client was unconstitutional and inapplicable.

Jaime Castillo was deported by the military government in August 1976.

Christian Democrat Visits Exiles

PY061455Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1537 GMT 4 Feb 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 4 Feb--It was learned here today that Angelo Bernassola, a world leader of Christian Democracy, arrived in this capital to visit the 12 Chilean Christian Democrats who had been exiled to northern Chile. Bernassola, assistant secretary general of the World Union of Christian Democracy, brings a message of solidarity to the leaders of the banned Christian Democratic Party, who are exiled in Arica, 2,051 km north of Santiago. Bernassola, an Italian citizen, arrived yesterday, Friday, from Venezuela, it was learned here. Within a few hours he will leave for the north to fulfill his mission.

The 12 leaders of the former Chilean Christian Democratic Party were exiled by the government charged with violating the current political recess implemented in October 1973.

Bernassola Requests Freedom for 12

PY070008Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1817 GMT 6 Feb 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 6 Feb--Angelo Bernassola, a Christian Democratic Party international leader, today requested the unconditional freedom of the 12 Chilean PDC members who are exiled to northern Chile. Bernassola, deputy secretary general of the World Union of Christian Democrats, held a meeting with Col Jaime Lavin, director of the Chilean Foreign Ministry, to discuss this issue. The international leader requested of the government official "the unconditional freedom and the full restoration of civil rights" of the former legislators and Chilean PDC leaders who are in Arica.

Bernassola, who arrived in Santiago on Saturday from Venezuela, met those leaders who are exiled in Arica, 2,000 km north of Santiago.

The Chilean PDC leaders and former legislators were detained and exiled on 13 December 1977, charged by the government with "violating the political recess" which has been enforced in Chile since October 1973.

EL MERCURIO SEES U.S. ROLE IN PLAN TO MOLD OPPOSITION

Santiago Chile EL MERCURIO in Spanish 20 Jan 78 p 3 WA

[EDITORIAL: "Intellectuals and Opposition Workers"]

[Text] There was a surprising discovery among the documents seized from a small political group which has been transferred to the interior of Arica. It is a letter from the director of the Cardijn Foundation to Gabriel Valdes, dated 10 January 1978.

Former Foreign Minister Valdes now occupies a prominent position in a UN agency. He is director of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). This agency gives important technical and financial support to various programs of great interest, in Chile as well as in the rest of the world. Substantial funds and a veritable legion of specialists and technicians implement the goals of progress the UNDP sets forth. The Cardijn Foundation, for its part, performs social tasks of cooperation and training, supposedly outside the political realm and oriented toward the welfare of the workers, without regard for their attitudes toward the Chilean Government.

The Inter-American Foundation in turn, is an agency created by the U.S. Congress, whose funding, initially at least, came from the U.S. Treasury.

The Cardijn Foundation director's letter refers to various projects of social value. Specifically he mentions Project Number 3, which was presented to the Inter-American Foundation this week. Without reference to any background information, it reports that the foundation seeks official assistance from the United States for one of its projects. Such an appeal would be understandable if it related to a humanitarian, spiritual or social concern which would give no reason to suspect interference or foreign intervention in Chilean political matters. But the letter states explicitly what the foundation director proposes: "The idea," it says textually, "is that the research should serve as a basis not only for the Cardijn Foundation's task of carrying on training, but also for action by opposition workers.'

In addition the correspondence mentions the intellectual support of the Corporation for Economic Research for Latin America (CIEPLA), an agency responsible for scientific research on economic matters, which is directed by economists Foxley and French-Davis, among others. The agency would also participate in Project Number 3, this being the first opportunity for the intellectuals of which it is composed to cooperate with the workers to mold them into an opposition action group.

"The ultimate objective," says the Cardijn Foundation director, "is to suggest a program of common action to the Chilean workers. To this end every effort will be made which will lead to promoting dialogs, meetings and discussions among workers and intellectuals representing various ideological positions."

Project Number 3 has very definite objectives: to stimulate the activities of "opposition workers" with a common program which seeks to link disparate ideological sectors, and in which CIEPLA intellectuals will work hand in hand with opposition workers of various leanings.

The UNDP director's response to the Cardijn Foundation's presentation is not known, nor is Gabriel Valdes' reaction to the strange Project Number 3. Probably the Inter-American Foundation, an official U.S. agency which is lavish with its help to certain political sectors, encouraged the Cardijn Foundation's request. It is hard to believe that CIEPLA is formally part of this attempt to organize the activities of "Opposition workers."

One could suppose that the letter picked up by the security services lends itself to a better interpretation than that which flows from its text. The persons and agencies mentioned in the document will probably explain its true meaning. In any case, the intervention of invisible foreign financing in plans to create political opposition or in tendentious intellectual activities is a factor which diminishes the prestige of the Chileans who maintain this type of contact. These persons cannot dissociate themselves from the kind of publicity--with which we do not agree--which makes distinctions between "patriots" and "antipatriots," when indications of possible plans to destabilize the government with foreign money are revealed.

Valdes Reply to Editorial

Santiago Chile EL MERCURIO in Spanish 25 Jan 78 p 25 WA

[Text] We have received the following letter.

To the editor of EL MERCURIO of Santiago:

Dear Sir:

With regard to your editorial of Friday 20 January and press commentaries concerning a letter which the Cardinal Cardijn Foundation was supposed to have sent to me, I consider it necessary to clarify this matter:

1. I have not received either the letter or the plans mentioned in the editorial. I have only learned of their existence through the paragraphs published in your newspaper and in others. No relationship whatsoever with activities of the United Nations is inferred from these.

2. The United Nations Development Program (UNDP) has not helped or offered help to this foundation. UNDP funds may be allocated only if they are requested and approved by the government of the country in which the activities are to be carried out. The Chilean Government has not sought this assistance.

3. A program of assistance to Chile was presented by me to the UNDP Administrative Council and approved unanimously, with the agreement and sanction of the Chilean ambassador. You know and appreciate this program, and this is demonstrated by your excellent editorial of 17 January, for which I am grateful.

4. My visit to the Cardijn Foundation, which, incidentally, is a public institution connected with the church, was made in response to a request from its director, and accorded with my continuing interest in the church's activities, as well as in activities for the advanced training of labor leaders--labor being a sector with which I have been linked through 18 years of professional activity. At this meeting the general objectives of the Cardinal Cardijn Foundation were explained to me. At no time did anyone speak of funds or help from the UNDP. And no political activities were suggested. The meeting dealt only with union training and the workers' role in a modern, participating economy.

5. Therefore it is unfair to attribute to me responsibility for a letter which I have not received, for plans for which I am unaware and concerning which the organization in which I work cannot cooperate.

Sincerely,

Gabriel Valdes S.

PINOCHET CONFIDENT OF PEACEFUL BEAGLE SETTLEMENT

PY071255Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0256 GMT 7 Feb 78 PY

[Excerpts] Coihaique, Chile, 6 Feb--President Augusto Pinochet stated here today that the opposing views of Chile and Argentina regarding the delimitation of the maritime border at the southern extreme of both territories must be solved "without resentment or hatred and within a framework of brotherhood and equality." Speaking to a large crowd who welcomed him to Coihaique, capital of the Aysen Region near the Argentine border, Pinochet said that the people who live on hatred destroy themselves. Pinochet told the crowd that the problems with our brothers on the eastern side (Argentina) must be solved within a framework of brotherhood." He added: "You, who because of your geographic situation are in contact with Argentina, should be examples of moderation which are characteristic of any man who performs within a framework of justice, because what is just makes and gives strength to man." He said that the law favors Chile, and that "the problem now is to study the situation without resentment or hatred, within a framework of brotherhood and equality. Thus, we are going to find solutions with our neighbor's president, so that we may continue living in peace and unity and to march forward together, as we did in the past century, when it was necessary to achieve our independence in this piece of land called America." He also insisted on the need to face things serenely. "Therefore, I insist on being serene. I insist on the brotherhood, because the peoples who are united are great. People who live on hatred and resentment destroy themselves and practically turn into useless conglomerates leading nowhere but to destruction."

Coihaique faces Border Post No 45, across from the Argentine Province of Chubut. General Pinochet is making a 10-day visit to the 10th, 11th and 12th regions in the southern extreme of the country.

COLOMBIA ALERTED AGAINST GERMAN TERRORISTS

PA03009 Y Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 31 Jan 78 pp 1-a, 8-a PA

[Article by Sergio Aguirre]

[Excerpts] Medellin, 30 Jan--The German police have alerted their Colombian counterparts to the possible presence in Colombia of 16 dangerous German terrorists who participated in many crimes, kidnapings and extortion operations in different cities of this European nation last year.

Very reliable sources connected with the national police, Antioquia Division, explained that a report had arrived in the past few hours from Germany noting the possibility that the 16 German terrorists have entered Colombia and are still here, presumably in Antioquia.

Yesterday, EL ESPECTADOR obtained the names of the criminals sought by the German police. They are: Susanne Albrecht, Elizabeth von Dyck, Friederike Knabbe, Silke Maie-Witt, Juliane Plambeck, Adelheid Schulz, Angelike Speitel, Sigrid Sternebeck, Inge Viett, Christian Klar, Brigitte Mohnhaupt, Jorg Lang, Peter Willy Stoff, Christoph Michael Wackernager, Rolf Heiss and Rolf Clemens Wagner.

The sources added that immediately after receiving the German police report the different departmental sections were alerted and told to search for the terrorists in their respective jurisdictions.

It was said that the Antioquia police received special orders to search for the delinquents, as they are supposed to be in this area.

The possibility that the terrorists passed through Colombia to a neighboring country has not been dismissed. It was said that in any case they do not travel together but individually or in pairs, which makes the search even more difficult.

BRIEFS

AGREEMENT WITH NETHERLANDS--Bogota, 3 Feb--Health Minister Raul Orejuela and Netherlands Ambassador to Colombia Frits Regt Doorzee have signed an agreement on hospital equipment. The agreement will complement the implementation of the national health plan. The Netherlands Government will donate 25 percent of the 300 million [currency not specified] cost of the equipment. [Bogota Radio Santa Fe in Spanish 2330 GMT 3 Feb 78 PA]

COAL RESERVES--Bogota, 3 Feb--According to a study by the Mines and Energy Ministry, Colombia has 6,420,245,000 tons of possible coal reserves. This figure indicates that Colombia has the largest coal reserves in Latin America. The report indicates that there are 391.2 million tons of proven reserves in four coal deposits in various parts of the country. [Bogota Radio Santa Fe in Spanish 2330 GMT 3 Feb 78 PA]

DRUG COUNCIL SECRETARY DISMISSED--Bogota--Unexpectedly and without a clear explanation, the government dismissed National Drug Council Secretary Jaime Eduardo Rivas Sanchez from his post. The decision was made after a U.S. Senate committee announced that according to certain confidential reports, even the members of this committee are suspected of corruption. Rivas Sanchez has already been notified of his dismissal and will be replaced by (Ligia Galvez de Abello). [Text] Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 2330 GMT 1 Feb 78 PA]

POLITICIAN ASAAD BUCARAM RELEASED

PA0521447Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1756 GMT 4 Feb 78 PA

[By Julio Cesar Villaverde]

[Excerpts] Quito, 4 Feb (LATIN)--Presidential candidate Asaad Bucaram was released today after having spent 20 days under arrest at a time when political activity in the country is increasing in view of the 16 July elections, which will mark Ecuador's return to a democratic system of government.

Bucaram, leader of the Concentration of Popular Forces Party (CFP), was released in Guayaquil, 450 km southwest of Quito, after serving a sentence for carrying out propaganda work during the 15 January constitutional plebiscite. The political leader, who is considered one of the strongest presidential candidates, was one of a group of 30 persons arrested for similar reasons. Bucaram, a long-standing leader of the popular masses on the Pacific coast, is opposed by most political parties and accused of being a demagog and even of being incapable of leading the country.

So far, only two other candidates have been officially nominated: Abdon Calderon, of the Alfarista Radical Front (FRA)--a splinter of the Liberal Party; and Rodrigo Borja, who founded the Democratic Left Party and seeks the votes of the young people.

Several other parties have not decided their positions as yet and are seeking to form new "fronts." These parties include the Communists, Socialists, Christian Democrats, Liberals and a wing of the Conservative Party.

Another sector, which opposed the constitutional plebiscite and is termed "hard," is composed of the formerly powerful Velasquism, the Revolutionary Nationalist Party of former President Carlos Julio Arosemena and the Poncist National Front, of former President Camilo Ponce.

During their stay in prison, [Christian Democracy President] Oswaldo Hurtado, [Progressive Conservative Party Director] Julio Cesar Trujillo and Luis Gomez Izquierdo of the Democratic National Union agreed to unite under the name "Popular Democracy," as they disclosed after their release.

POPULAR PATRIOTIC PARTY ENDORSES DURAN BALLEN

PA0618197 Guayaquil EL UNIVERSO in Spanish 1 Feb 78 p 20 PA

[Excerpt] The Popular Patriotic Party [Partido Patriotico Popular] in its national executive convention of 21 and 22 January 1978, in consideration of the fact that:

1. The country needs to be guided toward a genuine democracy which will allow the active and conscious participation of the large majority of the people in the political process and the adoption of collective decisions;

2. In view of the nation's problems, it is historically imperative for a government of national unity to be formed which will vigorously and determinedly cope with the various socio-economic questions related to the nation;

3. The people demand serious and well-planned government action with the participation of all regions and social sectors of the country to make possible a genuine national development;

4. It is indispensable for a new political stage to be ushered in through a government which will be characterized by seriousness and respectability and in which planning, the concepts of team work, technology and patriotism will be its norms of conduct rather than the demagogic and intuitive improvisations to which the nation has been accustomed; and

5. It is absolutely necessary for the next government to allow the strengthening of political parties on the basis of definite party principles and concrete programs of action that will lead the nation to social justice and a fair and equitable distribution of wealth;

Has resolved: To proclaim the name of Sixto Duran Ballen as presidential candidate to the Equadorean people. His clean record of service and his executive capabilities shown in the different posts he has held as minister of state, mayor of the city and official of the Inter-American Development Bank guarantee that the previously stated goals will be attained.

Consequently, all social and political organizations are invited to join this campaign in order to forge a true national movement, which for the first time in Ecuadorean history will establish a genuinely democratic government. The party also instructs all its organizations to start campaigning today throughout the republic until the people's definite victory through such an illustrious citizen.

Action and honesty. Quito 22 January 1978.

[Signed] Fabian Alarcon Rivera, national director; Alberto Coloma Solano, deputy national director; Eduardo Jarrin, secretary general.

PDC VICE PRESIDENT ARRESTED BY GOVERNMENT ORDERS

PA021731Y Quito Cadena del Triunfo in Spanish 1255 GMT 2 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Guayaquil--A few days ago the Christian Democrats declared they would do everything in their power to bring about the replacement of Government and Justice Minister Col Bolivar Jarrin Cahuenas. Now, the vice president of that political organization, Juan Pablo Moncagata, a resident of Guayaquil, has been arrested by order of the government ministry, apparently in reprisal for recently published statements by Moncagata in the Guayaquil press concerning Minister Jarrin's trip to the United States.

This arrest will give the Christian Democrats new reason to continue their campaign against Minister Jarrin.

BRIEFS

NEW AMBASSADORS--Quito, 2 Feb (AFP)--The Ecuadorean Supreme Council of Government has appointed Manuel de Guzman Polanco as the new ambassador to Argentina. He will replace Cristobal Montero Reese, who was appointed ambassador to Canada. [Paris AFP in Spanish 2320 GMT 2 Feb 78 PA]

LINE OF CREDIT ACCEPTED FROM ARAB FIRM

FY061315Y Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 3 Feb 78 p 8 FY

[Text] According to the letter forwarded by the Finance Ministry to Triad International Marketing S.A. of Geneva, the national government agreed to negotiate a $250 million credit offered by that financial firm.

Reliable sources said that the letter of acceptance to negotiate a line of credit offered by the Arab mission was given to Shaykh (Hadi Hubayqi), who had spent several days in Asuncion.

The same sources said that a list of projects was also presented. These projects are labeled "priority' by the government because immediate financing is required to carry out these important economic development programs.

The list of projects which must be studied by that international financial company includes a $20 million assistance program to farmers proposed by the National Development Bank, the construction of a central wholesale market and regional markets in the capital which are included in the immediate program of the city council and other infrastructure projects.

The list also includes financing the construction and operation of Paraguayan Steel Inc. [ACEPAR], and updating the President Carlos Antonio Lopez Railroad.

Also included is the purchase of two DC-8 planes for Lineas Areas Paraguayas, which intends to expand its international operations to the United States and later to Canada.

It includes airport construction, priority being given to the construction of a 3,000-foot landing strip in the city of President Stroessner.

Construction of airports in Concepcion, Pedro Juan Caballero, Encarnacion, Pilar, Filadelfia, Mariscal Estigarribia and Bahia Negra, in response to the growing importance of national air traffic, are on the list.

The list also includes the possibility of financing the construction of a cement plant and other projects.

STATE OF SIEGE EXTENDED IN THREE DEPARTMENTS

FY022141Y Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 2 Feb 78 p 8 FY

[Text] The executive branch decided today to extend the state of siege for another 90 days in the Central, Itapua and Alto Parana Departments. This order is enforced through Decree No 36,982.

In accordance with this executive branch disposition, during the enforcement of the state of siege all guarantees of personal freedoms are suspended as a security measure against international organizations "whose main objectives are the subversion of genuine order and the use of violence to destroy the basis on which our society is built."

POLISH DIPLOMAT GRANTED ASYLUM AT U.S. EMBASSY

PA062138Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2114 GMT 6 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Caracas, 6 Feb (LATIN)--A Polish diplomat, his wife and a daughter have been granted asylum at the U.S. Embassy here, the Venezuelan Foreign Affairs Ministry disclosed here today. The diplomat was identified as Ryszard Habdas, counselor of the Polish Embassy in Venezuela. Habdas yesterday walked into the U.S. Embassy accompanied by his wife Maria and his daughter Eva, the communique added.

The communique released this afternoon by the Venezuelan Foreign Ministry said that "the U.S. Embassy reported the decision to grant them asylum and asked for authority to transfer them to the United States of America." Venezuela has already informed the Polish Embassy about the case and is now "considering the situation that has arisen in order to adopt a decision at the proper time after completion of the necessary investigations."

In November, Yuriy Kedroch Yurchenko, a Soviet trade counselor, also requested asylum at the U.S. Embassy here. At that time the Venezuelan Government granted the authorization for his immediate departure after the United States granted the asylum request.

VENEZUELA-SURINAM SIGN JOINT DECLARATION

PA031810Y Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 29 Jan 78 p D-7 PA

[Joint communique of the governments of Venezuela and Surinam on the official visit by Venezuelan Foreign Affairs Minister Simon Alberto Consalvi to Surinam on 27-29 January]

[Text] Dr. Simon Alberto Consalvi, Venezuelan foreign affairs minister, paid an official visit to Surinam on 27-29 January, 1978 at the invitation of the government of Surinam.

During his stay in Paramaribo, Foreign Minister Consalvi was granted a special meeting with President Johan Henri Eliza Ferrier and Henck Alphonsus Eugene Arron, prime minister, finance minister and general affairs minister. He held cordial conversations with them about the friendly and fraternal ties between the two countries and exchanged views on matters of common interests.

They reiterated the firm support of Venezuela and Surinam for the objectives and principles set forth in the UN Charter, especially those dealing with equal sovereign rights, the principles of self-determination, nonintervention in internal affairs, renunciation of the threat or the use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state, compliance in good faith with international agreements, the peaceful solution of conflicts and international cooperation in solving international economic, social, cultural and humanitarian problems.

They stressed the importance of advocating full respect for human rights and its effective observance as fundamental factors to achieve peace, justice and national welfare.

They reiterated the unalterable belief in democracy of the people of Venezuela and Surinam and their deep belief that man can achieve his goal in life only in a system that fully guarantees the exercise of freedom.

Aware of the danger posed by the arms race and the proliferation of nuclear weapons, they agreed to support general and total disarmament, which is possible only with the cooperation of all nations. Within this context, they recognized the importance of taking actions to maintain Latin America as a denuclearized zone.

They reiterated the common desire of their governments to work jointly to establish a new international economic order based on equity, justice, equal sovereign rights, interdependence, common interest and cooperation among states, because the international community, particularly the developing countries, continues suffering from the consequences of an unjust and unbalanced economic system and the lack of any real action to restructure international economic relations.

They reaffirmed their countries' commitment to further strengthen the unity and solidarity of the Group of 77, with whose aspirations and general objectives they identify. Along this same line, they agreed to promote and support the cooperative efforts of the developing countries in defense of their interests and to strengthen mutual trust, which will allow them to have a just and equitable participation in the benefits of the world's economy. They also agreed to promote and strengthen the associations of countries exporting raw materials.

They reiterated the fundamental importance of Latin America's integration strengthening solidarity and cooperation among nations in the region. They also reaffirmed their decisive support to the objectives, plans and operative mechanisms of a Latin American economic system.

They reiterated the need to promote closer relations with Caribbean countries by coordinating in matters related to cultural, economic and technical-scientific cooperation, which will contribute to the strengthening of Latin America's integration process. They reiterated their confidence in the multilateral efforts on the continent with the participation of countries from the region and from outside to promote the Caribbean economic and social development.

They reaffirmed the importance of implementing effective policies for rational and harmonious use of their renewable natural resources for the benefit of their people.

They expressed their satisfaction for the great cordiality and understanding which exists between Venezuela and Surinam. They were also pleased that they could reiterate their governments' firm intention to increase fraternal cooperation and strengthen Latin American integration.

A friendship and cooperation agreement between Venezuela and Surinam was signed during Foreign Minister Consalvi's official visit. It strengthens the existing ties between the two countries and establishes the bases for closer cooperation in the cultural, technical-scientific and tourist fields.

Venezuela's foreign affairs minister expressed his gratitude to the president, the government and people of Surinam for the warm hospitality and fraternal welcome they gave him and his retinue during their visit.

Foreign Minister Consalvi extended a cordial invitation to Henck Alphonsus Eugene Arron to visit Venezuela, which he gladly accepted.

MINISTER FORESEES AGREEMENTS WITH GUYANA

PA051756Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1551 GMT 4 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Caracas, 4 Feb (AFP)--Venezuelan Foreign Minister Simon Alberto Consalvi declared here today that Venezuela will reach "definite agreements with Guyana through cooperation." The two nations have a longstanding border dispute regarding the vast area known as Guayana Esequiba. Referring to recent statements made by Guyanese Prime Minister Forbes Burnham with regard to the need to strengthen the friendship between the two countries by means of cooperation, Consalvi said: "That is the most intelligent and most appropriate way" to protect the present and future interests of the two nations.

HAITIAN OPPOSITION LEADER ON VISIT HERE

PA061810Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1433 GMT 6 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Caracas, 6 Feb (AFP)--Joseph Laine, secretary general of the Haitian Progressive Democratic Party (Partido Democratico Progresista--PDP), said here that the political, social and economic conditions of Haiti "will have no substantial change unless the Duvaliers are overthrown."

"The foreign powers must realize," he added, "that the future of the Haitian people depends essentially on Haitians themselves." He made an appeal to fight against the regime of President Duvalier, "the most terrible and reactionary dictatorship in the continent."

This is the first visit of the Haitian leader in exile to Venezuela. He came here to organize his party's ranks and to make contacts, he said, "with Haitian forces in exile."

CENTRAL BANK SAYS NO BOLIVAR DEVALUATION PLANNED

PA052128Y Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 31 Jan 78 p 1 PA

[Text] Venezuelan monetary authorities have viewed with interest the recent decisions adopted by OPEC member countries in the Persian Gulf regarding petroleum prices and the dollar. But yesterday they gave assurances that the parity of the bolivar will not be changed. Venezuela will not adopt measures similar to those being taken by its friends and partners in OPEC.

According to information obtained by the chief of our economic section from the Finance and Energy and Mines Ministries, there are no concrete plans for Venezuela to change its position of maintaining the connection between the U.S. dollar and oil prices. Special importance has been placed on the decision by some OPEC member countries in the Persian Gulf of coping with the devaluation of the dollar by a revaluation of their currency or by linking their oil prices to firmer currencies. Official and Central Bank experts feel that to a great extent this is an indirect way of adjusting oil prices, of coping with world devaluation and the fall of the dollar. Nevertheless, Venezuela does not foresee the adoption of similar measures. This nation continues to insist on collective action in the OPEC market as the one approved in principle since 1975--that petroleum prices could be linked to the International Monetary Fund's special drawing rights. This was brought up again at the Caraballeda meeting, but no final decision has been adopted to carry out this new collective monetary policy by the OPEC.

Benito Raul Losada, president of the Central Bank and one of the two most important monetary authorities in the country, was also asked about the Persian Gulf countries' decisions. He commented that these are new experiences which should be analyzed within the framework of the international monetary situation. Losada insisted, however, that the bolivar will stay firm with no variation in its parity in respect to the dollar, and that Venezuela will follow the same monetary policy on oil prices.

"The bolivar is firm and no change is contemplated....a change of policy is not even being studied," Benito Raul Losada pointed out.

It is worth noting that despite the expectant atmosphere in international markets, technical authorities of the Central Bank think the dollar may recover this year. According to unofficial reports, Saudi Arabia and Iran, the two main oil producing countries, also think the dollar will recover.

PCV LEADER NOTES FLEXIBLE POLICY ON PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

PA061706Y Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 6 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Jesus Faria, secretary general of the Venezuelan Communist Party [PCV], said upon inaugurating the 13th plenum of the party's Central Committee that in revolutionary policy, nothing is irreversible. The communist leader added that the defense of revolutionary principles is necessary and although the PCV does have a candidate, it can withdraw him if it benefits the Communist Party in the struggle to elect deputies, or for some other cause such as the election of deputies who will improve the situation for the working man.

During the plenum, Gustavo Machado asked the 230 participants to work for Hector Mujica's presidential candidacy.

A report was also given by Radames Larrazabal, speaking on behalf of the electroal campaign headquarters.

INTERIOR MINISTER DENIES SPECIAL VIGILANCE IN RURAL AREAS

PA041654Y Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 4 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Interior Minister Dr Octavio Lepage has said that no special vigilance is being carried out in the country's rural areas, because it is not justified. The high-ranking official was attending the swearing-in ceremony of the new national director of identification and alien affairs [extranjeria].

Newsmen asked him about certain statements made by cattlemen concerning meetings and other operations being held, supposedly to discuss ways of eliminating the situation of insecurity which they say prevails in the rural areas.

The cattlemen have not requested special measures from the Interior Ministry, the minister said. He added that the situation on the farms is normal, cattlemen have not requested special measures, and there is no need for such measures.

BELIZE

ROWLANDS BRIEFS PREMIER PRICE ON WASHINGTON TALKS

FL041754Y Belize City Domestic Service in English 0100 GMT 4 Feb 78 FL

[Text] Premier Price has been briefed on the discussions on Belize at the 2-day meeting in Washington between British and Guatemalan representatives. The British representative to the talks, Mr Ted Rowlands, minister of state in the Foreign Office, called the premier in Belmopan at the end of the talks yesterday. He explained to the Belizean leader that the discussions consisted of a full review of the Belize dispute. Mr Rowlands said Britain and Guatemala would continue their consultations with a view to finding an early negotiated settlement to the long-standing problem. Premier Price thanked Mr Rowlands and repeated the position of Belize that our sovereignty and territory are not for negotiations. Guatemala was represented at the talks by its foreign minister, Dr Molina Orantes. The meeting was held in accordance with the statement made recently by the British foreign secretary, Dr Owens, that the British Government has the responsibility to find a solution of the dispute over Belize.

COSTA RICA

CARAZO PROCLAIMS VICTORY; MONGE CONCEDES DEFEAT

PA061245Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 1218 GMT 6 Feb 78 PA

[Text] San Jose, 6 Feb (ACAN-EFE)--Rodrigo Carazo Odio, opposition candidate in the presidential elections held in Costa Rica yesterday, Sunday, triumphed overwhelmingly, defeating the government party candidate Luis Alberto Monge. Amid the noise, enthusiasm and celebrations at his headquarters in this capital, Carazo proclaimed his victory when it became evident that a majority of the electorate favored him. Although early today only 10 percent of the electoral boards--a total of 5,097--had sent in their results, Carazo had already won 58,677 votes to Monge's 48,628, a margin that has been sustained since the previous partial counts. This was enough for Carazo to proclaim his victory while Monge conceded defeat in advance.

Electoral Bulletins Issued

PA061610 [Editorial Report PA] San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish at 1506 GMT on 6 February broadcasts report No 9 from the Costa Rican Electoral Tribunal on the presidential and vice presidential election.

With 468,608 votes counted so far, the vote breakdown is as follows:

	National Liberation	Unity Coalition	National Unification
San Jose	71,289	90,075	2,449
Alajuela	41,882	47,043	1,079
Cartago	26,480	27,210	1,026
Heredia	18,072	21,071	385
Guanacaste	19,421	21,865	703
Puntarenas	18,520	21,604	1,151
Limon	7,734	10,427	694
Total	203,398 (43.4) percent	239,295 (51.07) percent	7,487 (1.5) percent

The bulletin also provides overall returns for the other parties as follows:

United People	12,592 votes, or 2.69 percent
National Independent Party	1,811 votes, or 0.39 percent
Socialist Workers Organization	971 votes, or 0.21 percent
Democratic Party	957 votes, or 0.20 percent
Independent Party	2,090 votes, or 0.45 percent.

San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish at 2305 GMT on 6 February broadcasts report No 13 of the Costa Rican Supreme Electoral Tribunal on the presidential and vice presidential election. The announcer reports that so far the total votes for the three major parties add up to the following:

National Liberation--327,295 votes; Unity Coalition--378,451 votes; National Unification--12,140 votes.

The announcer than notes that the Supreme Electoral Tribunal has stopped counting votes for today and will resume its activities tomorrow, 7 February. The votes cast at 521 polling stations still have to be counted but, the announcer reports, the present partial report is the last one for today.

Carazo Outlines Foreign Policy

PA0613502 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1245 GMT 6 Feb 78 PA

[Text] San Jose, 6 Feb (ACAN-EFE)--Early this morning, Rodrigo Carazo Odio, the victorious Costa Rican presidential candidate, outlined a future foreign policy of cordial and respectful but never too close relations with the government leaders of Costa Rica's two neighboring countries.

When asked by reporters at his campaign headquarters, Carazo, who preferred not to be called president-elect until yesterday's vote count is complete, subtlely criticized current President Daniel Oduber's policy of close friendship with his colleagues Anastasio Somoza and Omar Torrijos of Nicaragua and Panama.

Carazo announced that his government will zealously respect the principle of noninterference in the internal affairs of other states. This, he said, does not mean that questions of regional interest will be sidelined. Such questions include the future of Belize--a territory disputed by Guatemala and Great Britian--and the Central America Common Market.

On Belize, he insisted that the fundamental factor for consideration is the opinion of its inhabitants. At the same time, Costa Rica's position on a regional level must be coordinated so as not to injure Guatemala's rights.

He said that genuine efforts to get the Central American Common Market out of stagnation must be made and suggested that lawyer Jose Miguel Alfaro, who ran on his slate and was elected vice president, will be entrusted with this mission because he is an expert in the laws of the community.

The new president of Costa Rica also spoke of the support he will give to efforts to encourage El Salvador and Honduras to settle their differences. He also denied that he had connections with the Honduran National Party or had received financial aid from it in the campaign which led to his election.

He also emphasized his support for Panama's claims of sovereignty over the Canal Zone. He added that his government will support the Panamanians, as does all Latin America, since the question has a bearing on U.S. relations with the rest of the continent.

Carazo disclosed that he intends to reorganize the cabinet by merging some ministries and directing their activities with the proper coordination into economic and social areas. He added as he had said in his campaign, that he will reduce the number of Costa Rican embassies abroad without having to break relations with anyone. He noted that these plans are part of his general intention of making the best possible use of the national budget so as to promote administrative efficiency.

LA NACION EDITORIAL PRAISES TERENCE TODMAN VISIT

PA032135Y San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 1 Feb 78 p 14 a PA

[Editorial: "Costa Rica, the United States and Prices of Our Goods"]

[Text] According to Terence Todman, U.S. assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs, his recent visit to our country is part of the permanent contact he plans to maintain with countries of the hemisphere in order to obtain better knowledge of and find better solutions to their problems.

It is good for Costa Rica to have a loyal friend in Todman. The years he served as U.S. ambassador to Costa Rica place him in a good position to better serve us in specific ways beneficial to us. As a matter of fact, Todman does have a general understanding of our situation as a whole. This is a factor that is of mutual benefit in our relations with the United States.

During a news conference at the end of his visit to our country, Todman made highly positive statements that bolstered our confidence in believing that some aspects of our relations which still are not too clear, particularly in the commercial field, will improve and will definitely move in a positive direction. We are referring to the prices paid in the United States for some of our basic products such as meat, sugar and coffee, which often have frightening fluctuations that are a serious threat to our economic stability. Although some international commerical laws are not exclusively drafted by the United States, the attitude it assumes as our main client is significant.

The long-standing game that the superdeveloped countries have played, which consist of buying at low prices and selling at high prices, must come to an end soon. It is worth mentioning the fact that it is the United States, a leading power, which admits that commercial exchange terms have not been really just and that they can and must be improved.

This is what Todman seems to infer in his recent statements when he clearly said that "my government wants to establish real free markets for your products." There is no doubt about what he means. A meat quota increase, as Todman mentioned; preferential treatment concerning sugar, and a guaranteed market for our coffee in the United States are the positive aspects we hope will soon be implemented and make us look optimistically at our commercial relations with the United States.

Although our countries are different in size, we do coincide on many important issues and share common views about democracy, human rights and man's fundamental freedoms. This automatically makes us allies in the common cause for progress despite our difference in size. There are the profound similarities of our people to which Todman was referring. This is also the most solid foundation for a joint cooperation in all fields.

BRIEFS

NEW BRAZILIAN AMBASSADOR--San Jose, Costa Rica, 2 Feb (ACAN-EFE)--New Brazilian Ambassador to Costa Rica Fernando Pablo Simas Magalhaes today presented his credentials to President Daniel Oduber. [Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0408 GMT 3 Feb 78 PA]

EL SALVADOR

GENERAL SUPPORTS NICARAGUANS' BID FOR FREEDOM

PA041614Y San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1220 GMT 4 Feb 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] San Salvador--Gen Jose Alberto Medrano [not further identified] said here that it is encouraging to see how the Nicaraguan people are trying to escape from the humiliating situation they have been subjected to for so many years. He added that the strike movement the Somoza regime is facing is one of the strongest ever in Central America. He concluded that it is very difficult for a government to overcome such a critical situation, and that it is just a matter of time.

In his statement, General Medrano implied that a situation such as the current one was necessary to topple the regime of Anastasio Somoza Debayle.

Meanwhile, the Salvadoran Government has reservations about supporting the anti-Somoza movement. According to the recently approved Law on Public Order, the government banned a number of anti-Somoza rallies on Thursday and Friday. This, however, does not mean that the Salvadoran Government and people agree with the attitude of the Nicaraguan regime--one of the reasons being that government's disregard of human rights.

CONSTRUCTION WORKERS BEGIN NATIONWIDE STRIKE

PA051755Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1500 GMT 4 Feb 78 PA

[Excerpt] San Salvador, 4 Feb (ACAN-EFE)--Over 25,000 construction workers began a nationwide strike today, demanding approval of their collective labor contracts.

Felipe Antonio Zaldivar, secretary general of the Union of Construction Workers, told ACAN-EFE that the workers decided to strike because they have exhausted all legal recourse and because of management's intransigence. The Salvadoran Chamber of the Construction Industry, to which all construction entrepreneurs belong, has refused to approve 198 collective contracts which call for wage increases.

COLONEL SHOT TO DEATH BY UNIDENTIFIED INDIVIDUALS

PA071254Y San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1220 GMT 7 Feb 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] San Salvador--Yesterday afternoon on Guatemala Street in the Centro America neighborhood of this city, unidentified individuals stopped the vehicle driven by Col Jose Francisco Rene Chacon and shot him three times in the head, killing him instantly.

The coroner's report indicated that the caliber of the weapon could not be identified but that the shots were fired from a sawed-off shotgun. The security forces reported that no arrests have been made and that there are no suspects.

GUATEMALA

GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL DENIES SENDING TROOPS TO NICARAGUA

PA070146Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0050 GMT 7 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 6 Feb (AFP)--The Guatemalan presidential information under secretary, Rolando Archila, today denied that his government had sent troops to Nicaragua. Reports from Mexico, datelined in Nicaragua, said that the Guatemalan, Salvadoran and Honduran governments had sent troops to Nicaragua to support President Anastasio Somoza's regime. Archila refuted these "baseless reports" and emphasized that the Guatemalan Government has not sent troops to aid Somoza because "Nicaraguan problems involve only the Nicaraguans and it is they who must solve them."

FOREIGN MINISTER ON RECALL OF ENVOY TO NICARAGUA

PA062222Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1955 GMT 6 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 6 Feb (ACAN-EFE)--Luis Aycinena Salazar, acting Guatemalan foreign affairs minister, said today that his country is keeping its diplomatic relations with the Nicaraguan Government unchanged. The official said that Guatemalan Ambassador to Nicaragua Enrique Pellecer was recalled to this capital so that he could be placed in charge of his country's embassy in Honduras in accordance with a decision that had been adopted previously. Aycinena explained that Pellecer's transfer to Tegucigalpa is not a result of the current political situation in Nicaragua. He reiterated that the only purpose of the change is to fill the vancy left in Honduras by the recent resignation of Ambassador Mario Ribas Montes.

PRESIDENT WILLING TO CONVOKE PLEBISCITE ON BELIZE

PA070021Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2018 GMT 6 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 6 Feb (ACAN-EFE)--Guatemalan President Gen Kjell Laugerud Garcia said today that he is willing to convoke a plebiscite so that the people of this country can decide if the century-old claim of sovereignty over the entire Belizean territory should be given up in exchange for a 2,000-mile area, as is being considered. Laugerud Garcia explained that the partition of Belize cannot be decided by the executive branch over which he presides or by the Guatemalan Congress, because the national constitution establishes that any changes in the claim over Belize must be resolved through a popular consultation. According to the president, his government is looking for an honorable and peaceful solution to Guatemala's ancient struggle to get Great Britain to turn over the Belizean territory, which extends over an area of 22,000 square km. The claim is the object of current negotiations between Guatemala and the British Government.

BELIZE TALKS TO CONTINUE 'IN THE NEAR FUTURE'

PA071300Y Guatemala City Radio Fabulosa Network in Spanish 1220 GMT 7 Feb 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Excerpt] Guatemala City, 7 Feb--Acting Foreign Minister Luis Aycinena Salazar has said that the talks on a peaceful agreement on the British-Guatemalan dispute over Belize will continue in the near future. He added that the two parties are willing to continue the dialog leading to a satisfactory solution of the dispute. Aycinena Salazar stressed that no secret agreement regarding the territorial dispute has been signed nor has any type of cessions been made. He indicated that Guatemala has not in the least compromised [comprometido] the territory of Belize.

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES REGISTRATION CLOSES 3 FEB

PA032206Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1931 GMT 3 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 3 Feb (ACAN-EFE)--The registration of presidential candidates for the 1978-1982 term was closed here today with only 30 days left before the end of the pre-electoral campaign. Three military officers are seeking to succeed President Gen Kjell Eugenio Laugerud Garcia.

The rightwing anticommunist National Liberation Movement (MLN) has nominated Col Enrique Peralta Azurdia, former chief of the military government from 1960 to 1966, and Dr Hector Aragon Quinones for president and vice president respectively.

The center has chosen Brig Gen Romeo Lucas Garcia for president and lawyer Francisco Villagran Kramer for vice president. They are supported by the Broad Front led by the Democratic Institutional Party (PID) and the Revolutionary Party (PR).

Finally, Christian Democracy and the self-styled leftwing sectors have nominated Brig Gen Ricardo Peralta Mendez, nephew of Colonel Peralta Azurdia, and lawyer Rene De Leon Schloter for president and vice president respectively.

One of these three candidates will be elected president of Guatemala on 5 March. The presidential aspirations of lawyers Manuel Colon Argueta, of the Radical Leftwing, and Alejandro Maldonado Aguirre, of the Revisionist Rightwing, were frustrated as the groups supporting them failed to register and legalize their status as political parties.

STUDENTS SPONSER RALLY AGAINST SOMOZA GOVERNMENT

PA041604Y Guatemala City Radio Fabulosa Network in Spanish 1220 GMT 4 Feb 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] Guatemala City--Representatives of the professional, student, labor and peasant sectors yesterday afternoon staged a demonstration against the Nicaraguan regime in support of the popular struggle of the Nicaraguan people. The rally was organized by the University Students Association [AEU]. The demonstrators shouted such slogans as "It Is Felt, It Is Felt;" "The Presence of Sandino Is Felt" and the "Blood of Chamorro Clamors for Justice."

The speakers at the rally, which marched through the downtown streets, included AEU Secretary General Luis Felipe (Hinguia) and Horacio Fernandez, who spoke in the name of the Nicaraguan exiles residing in Guatemala. Meanwhile, General Edmundo Meneses, Nicaraguan ambassador to Guatemala, said his country was affected by various problems provoked by the opposition sectors, but that the situation had been exaggerated by the press. He said the strike had weakened considerably, and that only 20 percent of the establishments remain closed. He concluded that it is expected that the situation will return to normal this coming week.

HONDURAS

ARMED FORCES LEADER DENIES SENDING TROOPS TO NICARAGUA

PA070332Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0313 GMT 7 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 6 Feb (AFP)--Brig Gen Policarpo Paz Garcia, chief of the Honduran Armed Forces, today denied that Hondruan troops have been sent to Nicaragua in support of President Anastasio Somoza Debayle's regime. The Honduran officer voiced his "total surprise" over a report on this published by a Mexican newspaper. According to Paz Garcia, Honduras is "very respectful of the existing treaties of nonintervention in the domestic affairs of other nations as well as of the sovereign right of people to self-determination."

EL CRONISTA EDITORIAL SURVEYS TODMAN'S RECENT VISIT

PA031939Y Tegucigalpa EL CRONISTA in Spanish 28 Jan 78 p 3 PA

[Editorial: "At This Time"]

[Text] Two very important events have happened recently in Central America: the visit of U.S. Assistant Secretary for Inter-American Affairs Terence Todman, and the bonfires of rebellion that have been lit in Nicaragua against its regimes.

Mr Todman (a very nice man) came to Honduras to exchange views with chief of state Melgar on many questions. He answered the questions put to him afterward as follows:

"Yesterday I had the honor of being received by the chief of state. We discussed many questions of mutual interest. We talked about human rights, which for us is one of the most important subjects in the world because it deals with the fate of human beings. We also talked about relations between El Salvador and Honduras and trade, because we are fortunate in being able to buy beef and other products from this country. And we also spoke of Honduran development because we much admire what is being done for the development of this country and are pleased to be able to cooperate with the government in these matters."

One of two things occurred: Either reporters do not know how to question an inter-American personality, or this personality (no matter whom it is) comes into the press hall wearing an invisible armor shield that defends him from the boldest reportorial attacks. From a general viewpoint, Mr Todman returned to his country without having answered several questions that could have been put to him if these other circumstances had not existed.

Our reporter said that a complaint was made by a group of persons against a U.S. firm accused of acting against employees from Isletas. In this respect Mr Todman said:

"We believe that all U.S.-related companies should be good residents of the country in which they operate--that is to say, that they strictly abide by the laws of that country which also has the responsibility for enforcing them. Our position is that those companies have to respect the law. I am sure that the Honduran Government will insist the companies do this."

Actually it is not known what the Isletas employees imprisoned in Trujillo are charged with. We say this because although they are confined, no judge has either asked for their testimony or tried them.

However, it is said that they are being kept in confinement to hide something which if they were free would become known. It is possible because, as Cesar Bonilla used to say, often those who are confined should be free and the innocent pay for what they have not done." [Quote marks as published]

As it was reported that Mr Todman's itinerary was changed owing to the situation in Nicaragua, he was asked about this and said:

"The visits I make always are after discussions and talks based on the recommendations of U.S. embassies in each country.

"The Nicaraguan Embassy thought and I am in complete agreement--they are there and I am not--that at this highly emotional time it would be unwise for my presence to become the reason for disturbances which might affect the country."

He went on to say:

"It is not a good idea for me to arrive in the middle of something which Nicaraguans are trying to settle by themselves. Because in the end what happens in Nicaragua is something that concerns Nicaraguans first and foremost, and it would not be right for me as a foreigner to arrive in the middle of it and change the situation one way or another."

This sounds like something in the Bible.

PDCH SUPPORTS NICARAGUAN MOVEMENT AGAINST SOMOZA

PA041629Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0236 GMT 4 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 3 Feb (AFP)--The Honduran Christian Democratic Party (PDCH) today expressed its solidarity "with the cause of the Nicaraguan people," appealing to all Central American popular organizations to follow its example "at this decisive hour." In its appeal, the PDCH points out that "the Somoza dictatorship's nefarious activities extend throughout Central America, which constitutes an unacceptable shame to all men who love freedom and justice." The PDCH concluded by calling on all Nicaraguans "to uphold their stand until the fall of the dictator in order to create a society based on freedom and justice, where all Nicaraguans may live with dignity."

NICARAGUA

CENTRAL AMERICAN GOVERNMENTS SEND TROOPS TO SOMOZA

PA061710Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1655 GMT 6 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 6 Feb (AFP)--The Mexican newspaper OVACIONES today reported that the governments of Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras have sent troops to Nicaragua to help President Anastasio Somoza's regime.

The troops were sent to reinforce the Nicaraguan National Guard against the people's disorders and guerrilla attacks, OVACIONES said. These troops were sent to Nicaragua according to an agreement signed to this effect by the governments of the three Central American countries, OVACIONES pointed out in a report with a Managua dateline.

Somoza Says No Proof of Cuban, CIA Intervention

PA062130Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 2059 GMT 6 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Caracas, 6 Feb (EFE)--Gen Anastasio Somoza has told Venezuelan newsmen that in order not to violate the country's constitution, he will not resign from the presidency. In an interview given in Managua to special representatives of the newspaper EL NACIONAL, which was published today, the Nicaraguan president gave his impressions about the tense situation existing in the country where the Somoza family has held power for more than 40 years. The Nicaraguan president said that he is a chief of state "elected by the people to rule for a term of 6 years" (which ends in December 1980) and that he does not intend to violate the Nicaraguan constitution, which has no provision for the president's resignation. He said that Nicaragua has approximately 40 persons who, without being members of the Somoza family, can attain the presidency of the republic. However, he did not reveal any names.

Anastasio Somoza also denied that his family owns 40 percent of Nicaragua and argued that if this were true, there would have been no general strike like the one which entered its 15th day today in almost every sector of the country. Somoza, who is also chief of the Nicaraguan National Guard--apparently the only bulwark which still supports his regime--explained that "it is the people of the minority opposition who are staging the strikes."

Somoza said that he has no proof that Fidel Castro's international subversion or the CIA have been promoting the recent events which have shaken his country. According to Somoza, the situation in Nicaragua will return to normal at any moment. In this respect, he said that there is no problem in supplying vehicles with gasoline or in carrying out banking operations.

In the opinion of EL NACIONAL's correspondents, the apparent lull which has been observed in Managua following the serious disturbances set off by the assassination of newsman Pedro Joaquin Chamorro is due to many people's fear of going into the streets. Regarding the oil plot against Nicaragua promoted by the Venezuelan oil workers, Anastasio Somoza said that such a measure does not affect the country because Nicaragua does not buy its oil from Venezuela but from the multinational company Esso.

"If a boycott were staged, it would be a boycott by Venezuelan workers against Esso," he noted. He also denied that relations between Venezuela and Nicaragua are strained.

Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez said over the weekend that his government has not given any thought to breaking relations with Nicaragua. Perez added that Venezuela has no intention of intervening unilaterally in the affairs of any other country because it abides by international commitments. However, he suggested to the OAS that it would be advisable to send a human rights commission to Nicaragua. Meanwhile, a "demonstration against the Somoza dictatorship" is taking place today in Caracas in front of the Nicaraguan Embassy in Venezuela, organized by the Venezuelan Committee of Solidarity With the Nicaraguan People.

Within this atmosphere of protests against the current Nicaraguan regime, it was learned that a group of Nicaraguan citizens who said they belong to the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN) seized the Nicaraguan Consulate in Maracaibo on Saturday. According to these reports, the Sandinists vacated the consular offices after painting slogans on the walls such as "Death to Somoza" and "Long Live Nicaragua" and after talking to the local authorities.

GUERRILLAS' WEAPONS REPORTEDLY BROUGHT FROM MIAMI AREA

PA061946Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1915 GMT 6 Feb 78 PA

[Excerpt] Managua, 6 Feb (LATIN)--Spokesman close to President Anastasio Somoza revealed today that the Nicaraguan Government reportedly has proof that the modern U.S.-made weapons used by the guerrillas of the self-styled Sandinist National Liberation Front were brought to Costa Rica in fishing boats from the area off the Miami coast. As for businesses, they were reopened in part today after 14 days of a businessmen-worker strike against President Somoza. However, Rafael Cordova Rivas, leader of the opposition Democratic Liberation Union (UDEL), told newsmen that his organization had called for a continuation of the strike. It did so because it believes that "the situation has not normalized in any way, but seems to be getting worse instead."

NO VOTING RESULTS YET, SITUATION APPARENTLY NORMALIZING

PA061744Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1705 GMT 6 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 6 Feb (ACAN-EFE)--The Supreme Electoral Tribunal of Nicaragua has not yet released results on the municipal elections held yesterday, Sunday, although this morning it had already received the results from the 1,221 voting booths. A spokesman for the tribunal announced that the first official bulletin would be released at noon. He added that the vote count is a laborious task, which is being carried out by duly qualified persons. The elections, in which practically no one but government supporters participated, were scheduled for the election of 798 mayors, treasurers and trustees in 133 municipalities in Nicaragua's 16 departments. Over 1 million citizens were eligible to vote, but various reports received from the interior of the country--there were no elections in Managua because it is not the capital of a municipality--indicated that there was a general "coolness" and "absenteeism" on the part of voters within the Conservative Party (the only opposition party recognized by the government). The leadership of the Conservative Party had left each candidate and member free to decide whether or not to go to the polls yesterday. However, the newspaper NOVEDADES, which is owned by the Somoza family, says in an eight-column report today that there was a "massive turnout" throughout the republic. It accompanied the report with photographs showing voters lined up in front of the voting booths. Electoral tribunal officials expressed the opinion that "the voting was successful" despite the climate of crisis generated by the nationwide strike, last week's guerrilla attacks, disturbances in several cities and the suspension of broadcasting by independent radio stations. Today, 15 days since the general strike was decreed by businessmen, labor activists, opposition politicians, students and other sectors, a trend toward the normalization of activities is noticeable in Managua. A large number of businesses in operation can be seen since the hardware dealers broke the strike over the weekend. In its latest statement, private sector leaders left the members of their associations free to decide whether to reopen their businesses or continue the strike in demand of Somoza's resignation and justice for the "masterminds" of the assassination of newsman Pedro Joaquin Chamorro. Business leaders released a list of demands--freedom, guarantees and respect for human rights, among others--for which they announced that they will continue to fight. They added that the strike is "a temporary, renewable struggle" for the establishment of sociopolitical conditions that guarantee "a Nicaragua that will be the pride of all Nicaraguans and of future generations."

Meanwhile, the government has announced the results of another survey of the status of the strike in the capital. It was found that 87 percent of the business establishments are open to the public. Some 2,817 businesses were visited. It is rumored that movie houses in the capital will reopen today.

150 NATIONAL GUARD OFFICERS REPORTEDLY RESIGN

PA0702047 Paris AFP in Spanish 0138 GMT 7 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 6 Feb (AFP)--Some 150 Nicaraguan National Guard officers have resigned their posts, the afternoon newspaper LA HORA revealed here today.

The daily adds that the officers want to support the opposition to Nicaraguan President Somoza's regime.

LA HORA also said that last Saturday, 15 National Guard members were expelled from the armed forces when it was learned that they intended to desert.

NATIONAL GUARD COLONEL DENIES LA PRENSA CHARGES

PA0612057 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0405 GMT 6 Feb 78 PA

[Communique No 9 issued by the Legal and Public Relations Office of the Nicaraguan National Guard of Nicaragua on 5 February]

[Text] The Legal and Public Relations Office of the Nicaraguan National Guard clarifies for the citizens the false charges appearing in the headline published in the daily LA PRENSA issue No 14,918--the 5 February 1978 edition. The headline states that Jose Rodriguez, a resident of the La Fuente neighborhood, informed LA PRENSA that he was beaten by Major Anastasio Somoza Portocarrero, who was in command of several Anti-terrorist Special Brigade [BECAT] patrolmen.

The Legal and Public Relations Office of the Nicaraguan National Guard issues the following clarification:

1. The tendentious report trying to involve National Guard Air Force Pilot Somoza Portocarrero in these actions is a false accusation by LA PRENSA.

2. That officer is not assigned to Managua's police headquarters and has no connection with nor participates in BECAT patrol operations.

3. His post is that of director of the Infantry Basic Training School.

4. Major Somoza Portocarrero of the National Guard has not participated in any BECAT patrol in the La Fuente neighborhood or in any other place where LA PRENSA may have wanted to place him, and he has not beaten Jose Rodriguez, as LA PRENSA states.

5. The Nicaraguan National Guard strongly rejects the defamation campaign that LA PRENSA has initiated against Major Somoza Portocarrero and other members of the institution by twisting or deforming facts as the newspaper pleases.

[Signed] (Aquiles Saranda) Escobar, colonel of the National Guard [words indistinct].

SANDINISTS CLAIM TO HAVE KILLED 29 NICARAGUAN SOLDIERS

PA062213Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1930 GMT 6 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 6 Feb (ACAN-EFE)--In a bulletin published today by the local paper LA TRIBUNA, Sandinist guerrillas announced the death of 29 Nicaraguan Army soldiers in clashes which occurred on 3 February.

The leftist guerrillas' communique calls for the overthrow of President Somoza and explains that the armed conflict on 3 February, which lasted for more than 24 hours, took place near El Rosario Estate in Segovia Department.

The communique, which is signed by the Carlos Fonseca Amador Northern Front, states that the guerrillas suffered no casualties.

The communique says that the death of 29 of the 60 soldiers who made up the government patrol shows "the weakness of a feeble army that cannot hold its own in revolutionary combat."

In addition, the Sandinists say that on the same day, 3 February, the Nicaraguan Air Force indiscriminately bombed towns in northern Nicaragua.

FOOD, FUEL SCARCITIES REPORTED IN BLUEFIELDS

PA062207Y Bluefields Radio Atlantico in Spanish 1825 GMT 6 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Bluefields--Yesterday, the day set for municipal elections, passed peacefully, but we could note that voters were very late in showing up to vote.

This city is deeply concerned over the scarcity of fuel as well as food staples. The fuel scarcity has caused special concern among taxi drivers and boat owners. Let us hope this irregularity is promptly corrected.

BUSINESS SECTOR PARTIALLY RESUMES ACTIVITIES

PA070042Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2114 GMT 6 Feb 78 PA

[By Ricardo Ritter]

[Excerpts] Managua, 6 Feb (LATIN)--The business sector today partially resumed its activities following a 14-day strike against Anastasio Somoza's government, which began in the wake of the assassination of opposition journalist Pedro Joaquin Chamorro. The strike is demanding the country's democratization.

Nonetheless, Rafael Cordova Arias, president of the opposition Democratic Liberation Union political coalition, told the press that his group has called for the continuation of the strike because it feels that in no way "has the situation returned to normal. On the contrary; it is becoming more acute."

Twenty-four hours after yesterday's municipal elections, the situation was one of apparent calm and only the incidents reported in Masaya, 26 km from Managua, have been confirmed. In that city, there were demonstrations and clashes with the National Guard during which the opposition groups tore up electoral ballots.

Up until this afternoon, the electoral authorities did not have any information on the total number of votes, but it is assumed that the official Nationalist Liberal Party has won.

The opposition newspaper LA PRENSA said today that there had been extensive absenteeism, but it did not mention any figures.

According to local political sources, the official party's only rival, the Nicaraguan Conservative Party, is currently going through a serious crisis caused by a lack of confidence.

Meanwhile, [presidential adviser Raymond] Molina has affirmed that he has information according to which the Cuban Government is not financing the Sandinist guerrillas. Nonetheless, he recalled that President Fidel Castro recently offered to defend Costa Rica if Nicaragua carries out reprisals due to Costa Rica's alleged tolerance of Sandinist activities.

For its part, the newspaper NOVEDADES, which belongs to the Somoza family, today published a copy of a document it says was found in the pocket of a National Guard deserter known as Humberto Cruz Guevara.

The document, on which the seal of the Costa Rican Public Security Ministry is affixed, says that its carrier "must show up every 24 hours before immigration authorities while the Foreign Relations Ministry resolves his situation."

Guevara deserted several weeks ago from the National Guard and requested asylum in Costa Rica. According to the National Guard, he died in the surprise attack carried out by the Sandinist National Liberation Front in Penas Blancas, on the border with Costa Rica.

Meanwhile, last night the National Guard broke into the offices of Radio Noticias, where this agency's offices are also located, following a false report that the offices had been attacked.

The soldiers, armed with rifles and submachineguns, checked the offices and the house of Agustin Fuentes, a correspondent of this agency, but withdrew once they realized it had been a false alarm.

GRANMA ON U.S. OUSTER OF VIETNAMESE ENVOY

PA0703462 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 Feb 78 PA

[World events commentary]

[Text] The newspaper GRANMA, organ of the Cuban Communist Party, has denounced U.S. imperialism for waging a subtle campaign against Vietnam to discredit that country before the world. In an article published in its international section, GRANMA said that the subtle campaign includes the unprecedented action of the U.S. State Department in demanding that Vietnamese Ambassador to the United Nations Dinh Ba Thai leave the United States, using the false accusation that he was involved in a case of espionage.

It has already been reported that Ambassador Dinh Ba Thai emphatically rejected the expulsion order and warned that this flagrant lie is detrimental to the normalization of relations between the United States and Vietnam. The Vietnamese Foreign Ministry denied the U.S. State Department's accusation and affirmed that the ambassador to the United Nations and the other officials of the Vietnamese mission had nothing to do with the illegal activity cited by the United States. The Vietnamese Foreign Ministry added that this action not only brutally tramples on the status of the Vietnamese representation before the United Nations but also endangers the normal activities of the representatives of other UN member states. The Vietnamese Foreign Ministry also called attention to U.S. abuse of its status as host country for the United Nations and demanded that the U.S. authorities immediately cease these actions which offend the government and people of Vietnam and that the United States guarantee the security and the existence of normal conditions concerning the activities of the Vietnamese delegation to the United Nations.

In a telegram addressed to UN Secretary Kurt Waldheim, the Vietnamese foreign minister labeled the false accusation against the Vietnamese diplomatic representation an extremely serious charge. This U.S. Government action creates a serious precedent in relations between the United States and the diplomatic representatives of different countries to the United Nations. The Vietnamese foreign minister demanded that measures be adopted in this respect.

Commenting on the clumsy U.S. accusation against Vietnam, GRANMA recalled that on 30 January Stansfield Turner, director of the CIA, openly proclaimed the reorganization of U.S. espionage activities abroad. The next day, GRANMA said, the U.S. Government reported the arrest of U.S. citizen Ronald Humphrey and Vietnamese resident Truong Dinh Hung on a charge of removing secret documents in order to turn them over to the Vietnamese Government.

GRANMA said that no one will believe those who shamelessly practice espionage and emphasized the respectful and honest position of Vietnamese diplomacy wherever it operates. GRANMA added that the United States, the great almighty, was humiliatingly defeated by Vietnam and came out of the war which it should never have entered with the greatest military, political and diplomatic defeat of its history. After recalling that in that great victory the people of Vietnam did not give up one bit of their revolutionary principles, the Cuban paper emphasized that the slanderous campaign which the United States is now waging against Vietnam is an attempt to undermine Vietnam's international prestige, which is solidly based on long years of struggle for its people and all the peoples of the world.

WFTU OFFICIALS ARRIVE FOR TALKS

FL061833Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 6 Feb 78 FL

[Text] World Federation of Trade Unions [WFTU] President Enrique Pastorino has arrived in our capital at the invitation of the Central Organization of Cuban Workers [CTC]. WFTU official (Luis Turiansky) also arrived. During their stay in Cuba, they will hold talks in connection with the 11th World Labor Congress that will be held in Prague in April. Pastorino and (Turiansky) also will meet with leaders of our party and CTC.

CTC Secretariat member Jesus Escandel and CTC International Relations Department officials Juan Aguero and Jorge Fernandez Camejo received the visitors at the air terminal.

RADIO HAVANA COMMENTS ON NICARAGUA CRISIS

PA041729Y Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 3 Feb 78 PA

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] The tradition of struggle of the Nicaraguan people, whose greatest exponent is the general of free men Augusto Cesar Sandino, have been strongly expressed in recent days.

Nicaragua, the noble land where one of the most important battles against imperialist intervention was waged, is now fighting proudly and courageously against the regime left as a heritage of that intervention. The dynasty of the Somozas, installed in power by the act and deed of imperialist domination and treason, is now tottering, rocked by a growing opposition whose most firm and resolute vanguard are the students, workers and peasants.

The general strike against one of the most repudiated tyrannies in this hemisphere is extending throughout the country with the support of additional sectors and is aimed at the definitive elimination of a regime which, because of its crimes and surrender to foreign capital, is unanimously repudiated by the democratic public opinion of our America.

Reports from Nicaragua indicate that there are growing popular protests in Managua, Leon, Rivas, Matagalpa, Masaya and Chinandega, all of which have been the scene of fierce fighting by a people tired of enduring crime and barbarity after four decades of a dynastic regime.

The criminal repression ordered by Somoza against the strikers and the other sectors of the Nicaraguan population fighting in educational centers or in the streets has smashed against the ironclad will of a heroic people who know that their struggle is just and that they have the broadest international solidarity.

In the last few hours, 5,000 workers of Nicaraguan hospitals have joined the strike as well as hundreds of workers of the Labor Ministry, the Popular Credit Bank and the National Development Institute. Thus, the crisis has begun to directly affect the central institutions on which Somoza's tyranny is based.

The National Guard is trying in vain to normalize the operations of the oil refinery in Managua, the main sugar centrals and several industrial plants by occupying their installations with troops and directly pressuring the workers and technicians. However, the strike is expanding. According to reports from Managua, even the personnel of the Agriculture and Livestock Ministry have joined the strike.

Employees of the public sector issued a communique by which the depth of the crisis can be appreciated. The employees state: We can no longer tolerate being forced to attend political rallies we repudiate. We can no longer bear to have 5 percent deducted from our salaries to increase the coffers of Somoza's Nationalist Liberal Party. We cannot bear this life of terror any longer.

A report from Matagalpa describes the situation along these lines: In the sky, the helicopters of the National Guard and in the streets, men, women and children improvise demonstrations. They march with their fists clenched and shout such slogans against the government as "Somoza, assassin, here comes Sandino" and "we will bury the heart of the enemy in the mountains."

This is the overall climate in Nicaragua today, where the entire people, among them their representative sectors, agree on the need to put an end to the Somoza regime and to open a new stage leading to national reaffirmation, democracy and the construction of a new society.

In the midst of the struggle appears the memory and example of Sandino, raised high by the Sandinist National Liberation Front of Nicaragua. The tyranny increases repression and even resorts to bombings in an attempt to contain popular rebellion. However, in the face of the barbarity of a regime which recognizes that it is hemmed in, the combatants respond with the words of Sandino himself: "Tyrants do not represent nations and liberty is not won with flowers. As long as Nicaragua has children who love it, Nicaragua will be free."

COMMENTARY SCORES DUVALIER REGIME, U.S. ASSISTANCE

FL031946Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 3 Feb 78 FL

[Revolutionary Armed Forces and Interior Ministry Combatants Political Information Program commentary]

[Text] Imperialist interests and the regime of oppression of the Duvalier dictatorship have converted Haiti into a fief of transnational companies. The Duvalier dictatorship has sunk the people in hunger and poverty and has jailed and assassinated thousands of patriots.

North American monopolies have put the key branches of the Haitian economy under their control. They plunder the natural resources and cruelly exploit cheap labor. The monopoly Dupont Caribbean Inc., for example, in exchange for granting a small loan, received a vast piece of territory on a 99-year lease and unlimited rights on such territory. On that piece of Haitian soil, Dupont Caribbean Inc. has built its own port, luxurious tourist housing and other exclusive places for North American tourists.

Another example is the (Lagner Cameron) Company which devotes itself to buying blood donated by poor Haitians and obtaining big profits from this business, exceeding 12 times over the investments.

Certain internal disagreements within the Duvalier family, where several clan members are striving for power, have led economic and financial groups which support the regime to increase the militarymen's participation. With the approval of the North American Embassy, Haitian officers have increased their power.

President-for-Life Jean-Claude Duvalier is caught between the internal struggles of his family and pressures from various sectors. Meanwhile, foreign investors are trying to convert the Haitian economy into a profitable business as the regime's corruption is generalized.

The Duvalier regime can only be sustained with North American assistance, which in the past 2 years has amounted to $102,565,000, and by the repression unleashed by the Tontons Maccutes and the Leopards which crush the protest demorstrations that arise in the interior of the country and the trade union action of workers who demand improved wages and working conditions.

Haiti has a 90-percent illiteracy rate, an annual per capita income of $100 in the capital and less than $50 in the interior of the country, 50 percent of unemployment, an infant mortality rate of 240 children per each 1,000 live births, and only 3,500 hospital beds for a population of 5 million.

This is the sad panorama that characterizes the Haitian situation. But that fraternal people, rich in traditions of struggle, do not let themselves be crushed by poverty and repression. The revolutionary and progressive forces of that Caribbean nation are struggling against the pro-imperialist Duvalier dictatorship--a regime which, as an inexorable rule of history, will succumb in the face of the devastating push of the Haitian patriots.

TRAINING PERIOD BEGINS IN REVOLUTIONARY NAVY

FL041650Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 4 Feb 78 FL

[Text] The new period of training in the Revolutionary Navy has begun with a military parade at a torpedo boats squadron. During the ceremony, the members of the unit received the banner of "Socialist Emulation Initiating Unit" for the meritorious work done last year in operational, combat and political training.

Corvette Capt Jose Ramos Negrin read the pledge of honor for the new training period in which the officers, sergeants, sailors and civilian workers pledge to the command and party to fulfill all tasks in honor of the 11th World Youth and Student Festival. They also plan to continue work aimed at the fulfillment of agreements and resolutions of the first party congress and to raise even more the disciplinary standards and conditions of life of the personnel.

Rear Adm Emigdio Baez Vigo made the closing remarks. In his speech, he referred to the big tasks that must be completed during the new training period. He said that the main objective of work in the Revolutionary Navy during this period will be aimed at fulfilling the agreements and resolutions of the first party congress and consolidating the combat and mobilization capabilities of each unit.

Once he ended his speech, the troops passed in review in tune to the youths anthem.

MACHADO CHAIRS MEETING ON 11TH YOUTH FESTIVAL

FL070044Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 Feb 78 FL

[Text] PCC Politburo member Jose Ramon Machado Ventura today chaired the national meeting held to assess the work being done for a successful 11th World Youth and Student Festival. Representatives of the country's mass organizations, state agencies and armed forces presented their respective reports at the meeting.

In speaking at the meeting, Machado Ventura noted the positive things during the initial phase of preparatory work for the 11th festival. He then emphasized: [Machado Ventura, begin recording] Comrades, finally I want to insist on some aspects which are of vital importance to guarantee positive results in the period of time we still have ahead. These aspects are as follows: The dissemination through the mass communications media during this last phase should emphasize the selection and composition of the Cuban delegations so that this can be a truly political and ideological movement which would serve as recognition of an incentive to our people, since the youths [to be selected] should be a representation and symbol of our youths; and the progress of emulation work in all sectors, from which we expect positive results in the fields of production, education--for which we have the recent pronouncements of Comrade Fidel at the inauguration of the Friedrich Engels vocational school in Pinar del Rio--as well as in general savings, especially in import goods, and [positive results] in combat training, culture, sports, and so forth.

We believe that it is opportune to point out that the 11th festival emulation does not end with the festival, it will continue throughout this year. Something we should keep in mind is seeing how we can link to the festival all activities that may be undertaken for the commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the glorious assault on Moncada Barracks. The political and ideological preparation of the Cuban delegation [to the festival] and of the population requires support from the mass communications media in order to complement this work. [end recording]

Luis Orlando Dominguez, member of the PCC Central Committee and first secretary of the Union of Young Communists; Manuel Villamar, chairman of the 11th Youth Festival Organizing Committee, and other officials also presided over the meeting.

CUBAN HIGHER SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL CREATED

FL062139Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2102 GMT 6 Feb 78 FL

[Text] Council of Ministers Vice President Belarmino Castilla Mas today presided over the ceremony with which the Cuban Academy of Sciences [ACC] Higher Scientific Council was officially created. Zoilo Marinello, member of the PCC Central Committee and president of the State Committee for Science and Technology; and government and ACC officials attended the ceremony which was held at the ACC's Camilo Cienfuegos building.

The Higher Scientific Council has been created for the purpose of offering advice to the ACC presidency in the formulation and evaluation of perspectives and tendencies in the development of scientific disciplines and problems for which the ACC is responsible. The council will have a maximum of 120 members selected from among specialists of recognized levels in the ACC and other organizations.

ACC President Wilfredo Torres Iribar described the creation of the Higher Scientific Council as a memorable event of historic significance. We expect that the council will become the principal driving force in promoting, constantly and with the required urgency, the permanent development of the most important link of our technical potential--the scientific cadres, Torres Iribar said. He added that research should be aimed at studying the solution problems thoroughly and in a multifaceted manner, analyzing not only the impact of results but also effects in the cultural field and, especially, in social relations.

The scientist emphasized that different flexible factors, including the country's level of development, have been considered in the objectives, profiles and organizations that have been established. Torres Iribar further stressed that it is up to the ACC to point out responsibility in the big national task of training cadres of high scientific and technical levels. He then said that the ACC must become a source of multifaceted support for higher education. Above all, it must become an increasingly more solid and demanding promoter of the importance of having scientists in Cuba. We are certain, he said, that we can advance in the difficult task of scientific leadership and obtain the results we should attain in promoting our science in order to more effectively take care of the increasing needs of economic and social development.

In his closing remarks, Belarmino Castilla Mas congratulated the members of the Higher Scientific Council and asserted that their work will be greatly useful to the country.

GARCIA FRIAS SPEAKS AT PCC TRANSPORTATION MEETING

FL031708Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 3 Feb 78 FL

[Text] Guillermo Garcia Frias, PCC Politburo member and Council of State and Council of Ministers vice president, has reiterated the need to increase the quality of services provided. In his remarks at the PCC Transportation and Communications Department exchanges and experiences meeting, Guillermo Garcia referred to quality standards and called on the PCC cadres of this sector to follow these guidelines.

The commander of the revolution explained some of the aspects of the enterprise structure derived from the gradual application of the planned economic system and the role the party, management and trade unions should play in these entities.

COMPLETION OF PARTY COURSE AT CAMAGUEY ARMY CORPS

FL061920Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1902 GMT 6 Feb 78 FL

[Text] Col Roberto Viera Estrada, member of the PCC Central Committee and commander of the Camaguey Army Corps, has presided over a ceremony in that province marking the end of the PCC first basic course in that army corps. The appropriate certificates were presented during the ceremony to 79 officers, noncommissioned officers and soldiers who spent 10 months taking subjects taught by the directed studies system.

Lt Col (Rene Vallina), member of the PCC provincial committee and deputy to the Camaguey Army Corps commander for political work, made the closing remarks. He stressed the importance which the mastery of Marxism-Leninism has for our army's commanders, officers, noncommissioned officers and soldiers.

BRIEFS

NEW REFRIGERATED SHIP--The Cuban fishing fleet's new refrigerated ship, Golfo de Batabano, one of the 13 largest and most modern in the world, has arrived at the Guillermo Moncada maritime terminal in Santiago de Cuba on its voyage to Cuban ports. The ship was built for Cuba in Japanese shipyards and is part of an order of four, two of which have been delivered. The new ship has a deadweight of 10,540 tons. Its four refrigerated holds have a capacity of 6,000 tons and its maximum speed is 23.6 knots. Its crusing speed is 20.8 knots. [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1709 GMT 4 Feb 78 FL]

DOMINICAN COMMUNISTS URGE RELATIONS WITH CUBA

FL032228Y Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 2200 GMT 3 Feb 78 FL

[Text] The Dominican Communist Party [PCD] candidates to the presidency and vice presidency of the republic have stated that it is time that the friendship between Cubans and Dominicans be honored with the establishment of diplomatic relations. Narciso Isa Conde and Dr Pericle Franco Ornes asserted that mutual friendship exists between the Cuban and Dominican peoples and that there are historical and cultural ties between them.

The PCD demands diplomatic relations with Cuba, asserted Narciso Isa Conde. For his part, Pericle Franco Ornes said there is no justifiable reason not to establish diplomatic relations between Cuba and the Dominican Republic as soon as possible. The two PCD candidates said that undoubtedly there are external and internal forces opposed to such relations.

Narciso Isa Conde and Pericle Franco Ornes are the first Dominican communists to seek the presidency and vice presidency of the republic. The communist candidates added that the delivery from Cuba of the remains of poet Fabio Fiallo shows that establishment of diplomatic relations is now more possible than ever before.

CUBAN MINISTER VISITS, ATTENDS POET'S BURIAL

Balaguer Receives Vecino Alegret

FL031852Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 3 Feb 78 FL

[Text] Santo Domingo--Dominican President Joaquin Balaguer has thanked the Cuban Government for having agreed to transfer the remains of Dominican poet Fabio Fiallo, who had been buried in Santiago de Cuba. The chief of state expressed such thanks last night when he received the Cuban official delegation which, headed by Higher Education Minister Fernando Vecino Alegret, is in Santo Domingo to participate in the burial of Fiallo's remains.

Vecino Alegret replied that the gesture is in keeping with the traditional friendship between the two peoples that goes back to the participation of Maximo Gomez and other patriots in the Cuban wars of independence. The Cuban minister recalled that apostle Jose Marti and Maximo Gomez signed the Monte Cristi Manifesto in Santo Domingo, and he also expressed the Cuban delegation's interest in visiting this historic place which has so much spiritual significance for Cuba.

Vecino Alegret explained Cuban socioeconomic development and placed special emphasis on education and public health.

Cuban Minister Meets Press

FL061858Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 6 Feb 78 FL

[Text] Santo Domingo--Cuban Higher Education Minister Fernando Vecino Alegret has thanked the Dominican people for the welcome given to his country's official delegation which accompanied the remains of poet Fabio Fiallo, who died in Havana in 1942.

Vecino Alegret expressed such gratitude at a press conference held last night shortly before returning to the Cuban capital following a 4-day visit made at the invitation of the Dominican Government.

We are leaving this country, he said, with renewed affection toward its people for what they have meant to us throughout history. We also want to say that we have been treated with affection and respect by the Dominican Government.

Answering a question on whether the sports and cultural exchanges that have taken place in recent years between the two countries represent steps toward a resumption of diplomatic relations, Vecino Alegret stated that although they are important signs of friendship, they do not necessarily represent such steps. He asserted that bilateral steps would have to be taken for a resumption of diplomatic relations. In this regard, our interest is in developing present sports and cultural exchanges, he said.

Vecino Alegret answered questions in connection with Cuban socioeconomic development and, citing an example, he reported that this year's national budget exceeds 9 billion pesos of which 1.5 billion are for public health and education. Referring to the nature of the revolutionary process in his country, he said that the scientific socialism developed by Marx, Engels and Lenin is being implemented. There is one and only one socialism, which is scientific socialism, he said. He added that this concept is applied according to the specific situation of each country and that Marxism is also enhanced by the contributions which each country can make.

Hours earlier, the Cuban Government delegation went to the small community of Monte Cristi, located on the Dominican northern coast near the Haitian border, to visit the house of Generalissimo Maximo Gomez. It was at this house that Gomez and Cuban hero Jose Marti signed the Monte Cristi Manifesto before leaving for Cuba to join the second phase of the independence war. In the patio of the wooden house where Gomez lived, an emotional ceremony was held in the presence of government officials, teachers and students of the Jose Marti High School and hundreds of persons. A young girl conveyed greetings to the Cuban people, especially to Council of State President Fidel Castro.

Vecino Alegret spoke briefly to express gratitude for the emotional ceremony. He said that we Cubans are friends and comrades of Gomez and Marti and we are the ones who won the war they could not win. Referring to the Monte Cristi Manifesto, he said it constitutes a brilliant page of Cuban history. It is extremely significant to come here, he said. The minister asserted that Dominicans, who have been and will be our brothers, generously gave their lives in the Cuban independence wars. Before Vecino Alegret addressed the persons who had gathered at the historic place, several youths sang and read poems of political and revolutionary content.

The official Cuban delegation then visited Santiago de los Caballeros, the second largest Dominican city, where it was welcomed by government officials. Vecino Alegret and his entourage visited the Madre y Maestra Catholic University where they were informed of the courses taught at this university.

The delegation will end its stay in the Dominican Republic today with a visit to the city of Bani, located 66 kilometers west of Santo Domingo, where Maximo Gomez was born.

BARBADOS

ADAMS RAPS SCIENTIFIC SOCIALISM, ADVOCATES

FL031900Y Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 30 Jan 78 p 1 FL

[Excerpts] Bridgetown, Jan. 29 (CANA): Barbados Prime Minister Tom Adams today launched a scathing attack on "scientific socialism" and its advocates in the Caribbean and defended government's imminent wages and prices restraint policy.

"Scientific socialism cannot send away our balance of payments problems," he told the final session of his Barbados Labour Party's (BLP) annual convention here.

Adams said that in fact scientific socialism was communism by another name, and queried whether Barbados should accept a system where the standard of living was substantially inferior to European countries...and well below that of Barbados.

"Am I to understand that we must change to a system which offers a ration of eight ounces of meat every ten days, he asked.

The Barbadian leader reaffirmed the BLP's commitment to social democracy, and said the introduction of scientific socialism here would only lead to economic dislocation.

Adams warned the opposition Democratic Party "not to sell their souls" for political ideologies adding, "I believe that the time has come when we must help keep the Democratic Labour Party (DPL) from falling into undemocratic ways."

He said that cases of repression in communist countries were well known and felt that there were persons penetrating the regional intelligensia at university level.

On the question of government's wages restraint policy, the Barbadian leader said that he would soon announce the prices phase of the policy.

Further Details of Speech

FL042105Y Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEW in English 30 Jan 78 p 1 FL

[Text] Prime Minister, Mr Tom Adams, yesterday delivered a scathing attack on the principle of "scientific socialism", declaring that it could not solve our balance of payments problems.

Instead, the prime minister said, it is merely a piece of semantic window dressing for communism. Socialism, as a concept, is attractive he said since both political parties in Barbados are based on social democratic principles.

"Communism is not," Mr Adams declared, "since the excesses of repression in communist countries are well known".

The prime minister was delivering a special address at the Barbados Labour Party's 39th annual conference, which ended yesterday at Marine House, Christ Church.

Mr Adams who is also chairman of the party and its political leader, said that the current pre-occupation with the so-called scientific socialism largely ignores the principle of free and fair elections, a condition long enjoyed by Barbadians.

The prime minister recalled that free political elections, as they are known today, owe their existence to the emergence of the BLP, which was founded just under 40 years ago, during a difficult period.

He continued: "The free citizens of this country are now being invited to adopt another form of government whose outstanding and best known characteristic is an emphasis on repressing dissident political opinion."

Mr Adams said that the proponents of scientific socialism clutch at the imperfections of a democracy and exaggerate these faults to justify a total condemnation of the system.

He stated that he has yet to see an acceptable example of a small country with an open trading economy, where the socialist theories being propounded in Barbados have worked satisfactorily to ordinary folk.

The BLP chairman asked: "Are these advocates of scientific socialism, also and better known as communism, trying to tell Barbadians that we should all move into their system where travel abroad, like the purchase of a major appliance or car, is treated like an honour to be conferred by the government on only a precious few?"

He also suggested that the standards of living in those countries is not only substantially inferior to that in Western democracies, but in many respects is well below that of Barbados.

Mr Adams' statements come in the wake of a request by one of the principal advocates of the concept seeking police protection in a letter to the prime minister.

University lecturer, Dr Ralph Gonsalves said that his request came after the latest threat telephoned to another section of the press because of his advocacy of socialism.

Mr Adams' speech to the conference lasted about 40 minutes and was punctuated by cheering. After his address, he was given a standing ovation.

Among the audience yesterday were members of the diplomatic corps, permanent secretaries, and representatives of trade unions, employers and manufacturers associations--a major departure from normal procedure and which conference chairman Senator Hutson Linton described as another step in 'open government'.

DOMINICA

FIRED COMMUNICATIONS MINISTER EXPLAINS DISMISSAL

FL042115Y Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 28 Jan 78 p 2 FL

[Text] Roseau, Fri--Dominica's former minister of communication, works and hydraulics, Michael Douglas, has said here that Dominicans would have to judge whether his removal from office would serve their interests better.

In an interview with CANA today, Mr Douglas said that he was very satisfied with his performance in office during the past two years and ten months, both as minister of communication, works and hydraulics and minister for agriculture, lands and fisheries.

"I am satisfied that during my term of office I have discharged the duties given to me under the constitution with diligence, honesty and a high degree of efficiency," he told CANA.

Mr Douglas, along with Ferdinand Papillon, former minister of health, home affairs and welfare, were sacked by Premier Patrick John in a cabinet re-shuffle announced here last Wednesday.

Premier John, in giving reasons for the dismissal, said that it was "to meet the needs of our country and you (the public) for effective and able administration of the country's affairs."

Adding that he was still a member of the ruling Labour Party, which he joined in 1969, Mr Douglas noted: "If this policy brings me into further conflict with the premier in his role as political leader of the party, I would then have to be charged with conduct prejudicial to the best interest of the party.

"I would have to be given an opportunity to refute those charges and if found guilty, I would be found guilty by the Labour Party executive as a whole," he said.

But while Mr Douglas was outlining the possible reasons for his dismissal, his colleague, Mr Parillon, was telling newsmen that the charges of him being a leftist, which led to his dismissal, were "very poor."

He said that his stance during the September-October 17 civil service strike (for $4.1 million in backpay) and his handling of the Leo Austin affair were well documented, and so he did not have to give any explanation. (CANA.)

GOVERNMENT ISSUES STATEMENT ON FOREIGN ASSISTANCE

FL042110Y Port-of-Spain TRAINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 31 Jan 78 p 8 FL

[Text] Roseau, Mon--The Dominica Government warned today that no one had been given the right to negotiate assistance on its behalf with any country before or after independence.

A government information service release said: Recent public statements by local left wing socialists have apparently frightened some Dominicans to believe that the government of this country is courting communism.

"This has been further complicated by unauthorised announcements in the Caribbean media of the offer of assistance from a socialist source for developments here in industry, education, communications and housing.

"Whatever contacts are made with friendly governments are made through existing diplomatic channels."

The release noted that Dominica is a small country poised on the threshold of independence and government wanted the greatest good for the greatest number.

"Government wishes however to reassure Dominicans that the people's birthright should not be mortgaged for bread. This government will never exchange one form of colonialism for another.

"Whatever new friendships are cultivated after independence will be devoid of all imperialistic overtones." (CANA).

JAMAICA

PRIME MINISTER MANLEY TO VISIT HUNGARY, FRG 13-15 FEB

FL061725Y Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 2 Feb 78 p 1 FL

[Text] Prime Minister Michael Manley has accepted an invitation from the government of Hungary to pay an official visit from February 13 to 15, and have discussions with the Prime Minister Gyorgy Lazar and other Hungarian leaders.

The visit is the first by a Jamaican prime minister to one of the COMECON countries of Eastern Europe. A news release from the prime minister's office says it is as a consequence of the government's decision to diversify Jamaican economic, social and political relationships by entering into new relationships while maintaining traditional ones.

Recently, there have been a number of developments in trading and economic relations between Hungary and Jamaica. These include an $8 million line of credit for the purchase of drugs and other pharmaceutical products.

The official discussions in the Hungarian capital, Budapest, will explore these issues further. It will also cover co-operation in the bauxite alumina industry as well as other areas of industrial co-operation.

During Mr Manley's visit agreements formalizing the bilateral relations between Jamaica and Hungary will be signed.

Before going to Budapest, Mr Manley will attend a meeting of the Socialist International in Hamburg, Federal Republic of Germany.

The Socialist International is a worldwide conference of leaders of democratic socialist governments and parties and Mr Manley will use the occasion for discussions with the Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, Mr Helmut Schmidt and the Prime Minister of Norway, Mr Odvar Nordli.

The talks with Chancellor Schmidt will cover mainly international issues, the priority being the new international economic order. With Prime Minister Nordli, Mr Manley will discuss both bilateral and international issues, including the growing economic relationship between Jamaica and Norway.

Between the Hamburg meeting and the Hungarian official visit, Mr Manley will have discussions in London with Prime Minister James Callaghan.

Mr Manley will leave on Monday.

MANLEY CALLS FOR PRODUCTION SYSTEMS SUITABLE TO REGION

FL031920Y Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 31 Jan 78 p 1 FL

[Text] The 11th Biennial Convention of the Caribbean Veterinary Association opened at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel, New Kingston, yesterday morning with a call by Prime Minister Michael Manley for "emphasis to be placed on conceptualizing and developing production systems for sheep and goats which are appropriate to the needs of the region."

Delivering the keynote address to over 100 delegates and observers from the Caribbean, Central America, the United States and Canada, Mr Manley suggested that the convention give priority in its deliberations to the area of small ruminant development and thus lay the basis for work which would see sheep and goat production develop and flourish in the region.

Mr. Manley observed that the most meagre resources had so far been devoted by international and bilateral agencies to research and development of small ruminants in the developing countries of the world where the majority of sheep and goats were found, with the exception of Australia. In regard to sheep research, he held this situation as being responsible in part for the lack of much of the essential technology necessary for rapid development of the ruminant sector.

However, organizations like your own Caribbean Veterinary Association and the University of the West Indies possess personnel with various skills which can conceptualize and develop programmes of research and development for small ruminant production in our region.

Mr. Manley said that his government was now in the process of putting the final shape to a set of livestock policies which would be an integral part of the five-year plan to come into effect shortly.

He indicated that the plan would aim to emphasize the production of cattle, sheep and goats. This would be linked to the utilization of substantial areas of marginal lands unsuited for crop and large animal production.

In the light of the importance of the veterinarian to the future welfare of the Caribbean, Mr. Manley said, it was not surprising that a recent meeting of CARICOM ministers responsible for agriculture commissioned the preparation of a project for the establishment of veterinary education for the region to be located in Trinidad.

He described this act as part of an initiative to find an answer to the continuing problem of a shortage of skilled animal health personnel to service the several programmes for animal industry development, especially in the larger countries like Guyana, Belize and Jamaica.

The participants in the convention were welcomed by Agriculture Minister A.J. Belinfanti. the convention ends on Sunday with the final two days session at the Ocho Rios Intercontinental Hotel. Tomorrow's session will feature the presentation of papers.

Yesterday morning's session was presided over by Dr. T.W. Surgeon, president of the Jamaica Veterinary Association.

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